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LABOUR REPORT, 1930.

No. 21.

Prepared under Instructions from the
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by

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PREFACE.

The twenty-first Labour Report resembles its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement, but is considerably curtailed for reasons of economy. It contains all the new information relative to 1930, but a good deal of descriptive matter and commentary has been left out. The descriptive matter may be found in previous Reports and the commentary must be left to the reader to make for himself.

A short statement is given of the position in regard to wholesale prices, which are now the subject of special inquiry with a view to a revision and amplification of the wholesale price index-numbers.

A short general description of the retail price index-numbers, with some discussion of their accuracy both in themselves and as a measure of all retail prices, is given in Appendix VIII., which is printed also as a separate pamphlet entitled "Wages and Prices."

The attempt to assess the number and amount of individual changes in wages has been discontinued on account of the unsatisfactory nature of some of the data. The total change, however, is obtained by comparison of the weighted average wage which is calculated for each quarter.

The retail price index-numbers (Food, Groceries and Rent—all houses) used by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court which are not given in the body of the Report, will be found in Appendix VII. along with the corresponding rent (all houses) index-numbers.

For the purpose of tabulating the results of the investigations which have been made in regard to rates of wage, labour organizations, employers' associations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following classification of trades and occupations has been adopted :—

Classification of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Hats, Boots, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

It is gratifying to record that secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail dealers, house agents, and others have readily responded to the somewhat heavy demands made upon them.

Without the help so rendered, the investigations contained herein would have been impossible, and I take this opportunity of expressing my cordial thanks to all who have thus assisted.

The valuable assistance rendered to the Bureau by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices, is acknowledged, and to the officers concerned I desire to express my sincere thanks.

I am specially indebted to Mr. H. J. Petrie, the officer in charge of Labour Statistics in this Bureau, for the care and attention which he has bestowed on the compilation of this Report and in seeing the matter through the press, also to the staff under his control for their cordial co-operation and valuable services.

L. F. GIBLIN,
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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
Canberra, F.C.T., 16*th December*, 1931.

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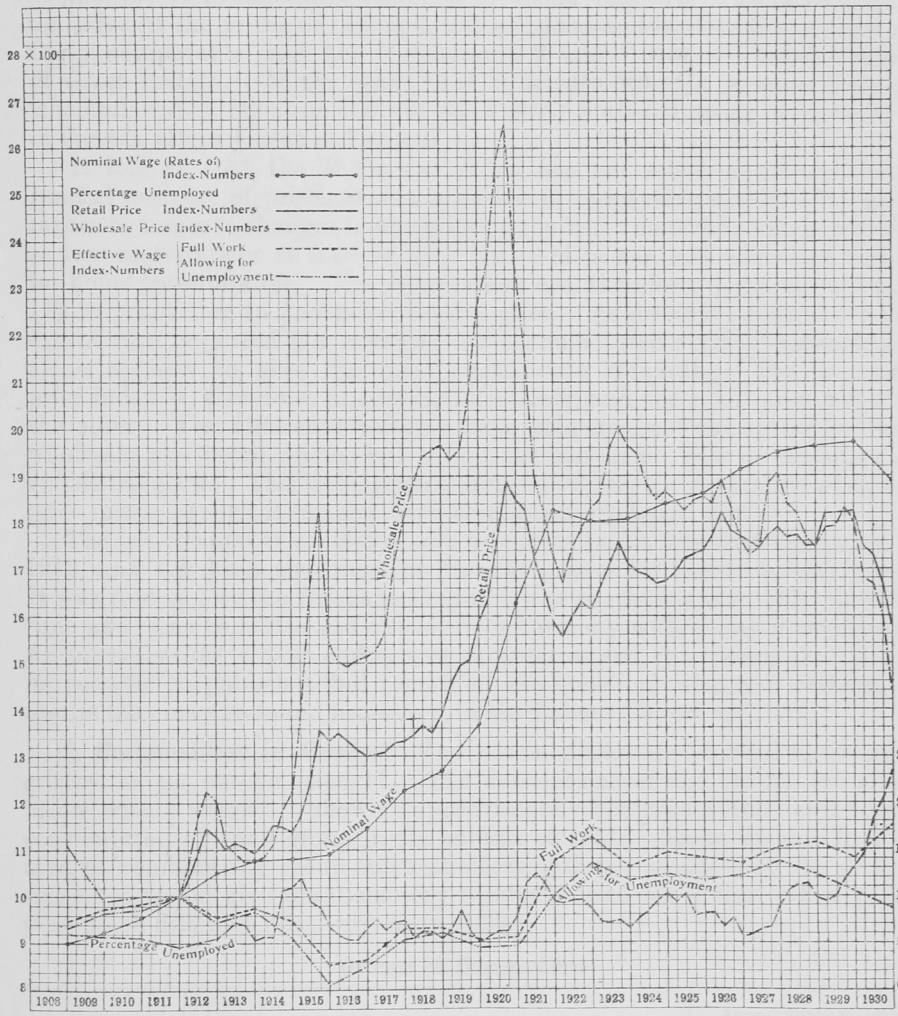
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RETAIL AND WHOLESALE PRICES, NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE WAGE INDEX NUMBERS, AND PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED.—AUSTRALIA, 1908 TO 1930.



NOTE.—The figures on the right represent the scale for the percentage unemployed according to trade-union returns. The figures on the left represent the scale for the several index-numbers, the year 1911 being taken in each case as base (= 1000). Since the end of the year 1911, the Retail Price Index-numbers (weighted average cost of food, groceries, and house rent for the six capital cities), and the Wholesale Price Index-number (Melbourne) are shown in each quarter, while unemployment percentages are shown quarterly since the end of the year 1912 only. The other index-numbers since 1913 refer to the average for the whole year, but for purposes of convenience are plotted on the graph as at the end, not the middle, of the year. Retail Price and Wholesale Price Index-numbers show the average level during the whole of each quarter, and they also for convenience are plotted at the end, and not the middle, of each quarter.

CHAPTER I.—PRICES.

Section 1.—Wholesale Prices.

1. **General.**—The information given in this chapter refers to Melbourne wholesale prices. An index of Sydney wholesale prices is compiled by the Government Statistician, and published in the *Year-Book* of New South Wales.

The scope of the wholesale price index can best be understood by study of the list of commodities included given on page 11. It is principally an index of the prices of raw material and food and is therefore in its scope fairly comparable with the "Economist" and "Statist" index-numbers of Great Britain. On the other hand, it is very different in scope from the wholesale price index-numbers of the United States (Bureau of Labour) or of Canada (Department of Labour).

It follows that the Melbourne index has not much significance as a general measure of prices or as a criterion of purchasing power. Its use is rather to indicate changes in the price of the basic materials which, whether as raw materials or as food or as a source of power, enter into production for home consumption. The commodities are, therefore, weighted (see page 11), in proportion to Australian consumption. As Australia does not to any extent turn imported raw material into manufactured exports, consumption alone appears to give the most appropriate weighting The wholesale price index is, therefore, at one end of a scale, and the retail price index at the other. The difference between them indicates, not the spread between wholesale and retail prices, but rather the combined costs of manufacture and distribution. This is the general idea underlying the Australian wholesale price index, though it has not been consistently followed out.

The index-number of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912, and has been continued on the same lines for nearly twenty years. It was resolved at the Brisbane Conference of Statisticians in 1930 that the time had come to revise and extend it in harmony with changed conditions. An investigation to that end is now in progress and it is hoped that it will be possible to publish a full report on the question, with any revision of results that may be found necessary, in the Labour Report for 1932.

2. **Commodities in Groups.**—The commodities are divided into eight groups, as set out on page 11. The descriptions of the groups are given below with "weights", showing approximately the proportional cost of the consumption of each group in the middle of 1931. These weights may be used to combine any group index-numbers with fair accuracy at the present time, but would give unsatisfactory results if used for a time when prices were much different relatively, as in 1929.

Groups of Commodities.

Number.	Description.	Approximate Weight (1931).
I.	"Metals and Coal"	40
II.	"Cotton, Wool", also jute, leather, &c. ..	30
III.	"Agricultural produce"	50
IV.	"Dairy produce"	22
V.	"Groceries"	45
VI.	"Meat"	25
VII.	"Building materials" (mostly timber) ..	18
VIII.	"Chemicals" (excluding fertilizers) ..	2

It will be noticed that the chemicals group is almost negligible.

The index is predominantly of basic materials, but some elements of Australian manufacturing costs enter into all groups. The element is small in Meat (VI.), Agricultural produce (III.), and Cotton, Wool (II), and rather greater in the others; but the difference is not sufficient to justify any

inference as to different changes of the price-level for manufactured goods and farm products. The number and weight of manufactured commodities included are too small for inference of this kind from any possible grouping.

Many of the commodities included are affected by the tariff. Cotton, Wool (II.), Agricultural produce (III.) and Meat (VI.), are little affected, and Dairy Produce (IV.) not greatly, but in the other groups the tariff is a dominating influence.

Melbourne Wholesale Prices—Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units."

Commodity.	Brand.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP I.			
Iron—			
Pig ..	Mxd. Nos.	ton	6½
Rod and Bar	Stafford	,,	3½
Angle and Tee	,,	,,	3½
Plate ..	,,	,,	3
Hoop ..	,,	,,	½
Galvanized ..	26 gauge	,,	5
Tinned Plates ..	I.C. Coke	box	60
Fencing Wire ..	No. 8 ..	ton	6
Zinc, sheet ..	..	,,	1
Lead, sheet ..	..	,,	¾
,, Pipes ..	..	,,	
Copper, sheet ..	..	lb.	2,000½
Quicksilver ..	..	,,	12
Coal	Newcastle, on wharf	ton	600
GROUP II.			
Branbags ..	..	doz.	110
Cornsacks ..	..	,,	250
Woolpacks ..	..	each	200
Leather—			
Chrome Box Hide	..	ft.	600
Rough Tanned —Split	..	lb.	600
Sole Leather— Factory Sides	..	,,	600
Cotton ..	Raw ..	,,	24,000
Wool ..	Greasy..	,,	12,200
Twine ..	Reaper and Binder	,,	150
Tallow ..	Mutton Prime	ton	1½
GROUP III.			
Wheat ..	..	bushel	500
Flour ..	..	ton	48
Bran	..	,,	14
Pollard ..	..	,,	14
Oats	Milling	bushel	1,200
Oatmeal ..	Colonial	ton	1½
Barley ..	English	bushel	150
,, ..	Cape ..	,,	100
Maize ..	..	,,	1,000
Hay	Best Mngr.	ton	135
Chaff ..	Prime ..	,,	135
Straw ..	Victorian	,,	25
Peas	..	bushel	55
Potatoes ..	..	ton	40
Malt	Victorian	bushel	140
Onions ..	..	ton	3
GROUP IV.			
Ham ..	..	lb.	800
Bacon ..	..	,,	3,200
Cheese ..	..	,,	1,500
Butter ..	Best Fresh	,,	9,500
Lard	Bulk ..	,,	200
Eggs	Ordinary	doz.	1,800
Honey ..	..	lb.	600
Beeswax ..	..	,,	40
Condensed Milk	Bacchus Marsh	doz. lb.	160

Commodity.	Brand.	Unit.	Mass Unit.
GROUP V.			
Currants ..	..	lb.	1,400
Raisins ..	Sultanas	,,	1,400
Herrings ..	1-lb. fresh	doz. 1-lb. tins	50
Salmon ..	1 lb. tall Alaska	,,	50
Sardines ..	Halves	doz. halves	100
Coffee ..	Plantation	lb.	200
Cocoa ..	McKenzie's	,,	100
Sugar ..	No. 1A	ton	2¾
Macaroni ..	..	lb.	200
Sago ..	..	cwt.	7
Rice ..	..	ton	¾
Salt	Australian fine	,,	7
Salt	Rock ..	,,	1
Mustard ..	Coleman's	doz. 1-lb. tins	6
Starch ..	Coleman's White	lb.	100
Blue ..	Keen's	,,	50
Matches ..	Australian Safety	gross	90
Candles ..	Rangoon	lb.	1,600
Tobacco ..	.. Po'ket Pcs.	,,	1,300
Tea	..	,,	3,000
Kerosene ..	..	gallon	1,700
GROUP VI.			
Beef ..	Average quality	100 lb.	890
Mutton ..	,,	lb.	33,000
Veal ..	,,	,,	2,000
Lamb ..	,,	,,	5,600
Pork ..	,,	,,	3,700
GROUP VII.			
Timber—	Flooring— 6 x 1½	100 ft. lin.	30
	6 x ¾	,,	30
	6 x ½	,,	30
	6 x ¼	,,	30
	Weather-boards	,,	200
	Oregon	1,000 ft. sup.	20
	Shelving	,,	10
Cement ..	Portland	cask	30
White Lead ..	..	ton	¼
Slates ..	Welsh 20 x 10	1,000	1
GROUP VIII.			
Cream of Tartar	In kegs	lb.	400
Carbonate of Soda	..	ton	½
Saltpetre ..	Refined	,,	½
Sulphur ..	..	,,	⅓
Caustic Soda ..	..	cwt.	¼
Alum ..	Lump ..	ton	½
Cyanide of Potassium	..	lb.	570

3. **Index-Numbers.**—Index-numbers have been computed for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined. These index-numbers are shown in the following table :—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices—Index-Numbers 1861 to August 1931, Computed with Year 1911 as Base (= 1,000).

YEAR.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Cotton, Wool, Leather.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Commodities combined.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,400	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,088
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,628	1,664
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,662
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,125	2,363	1,985	1,651	1,516	2,348	2,851	2,898	2,055
1920 ..	2,298	2,624	2,439	2,209	1,918	3,279	3,226	2,825	2,436
1921 ..	2,173	1,362	1,767	2,000	1,976	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,942	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,005	1,965	1,758
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,837	1,746	2,579	2,025	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,815	1,806	1,935
1925 ..	1,852	1,967	1,797	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,731	1,931	1,665	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,850	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,624	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,015	1,744	1,923	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,556	1,792	1,853	1,690	2,246	1,754	1,942	1,803
1930 ..	1,866	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,025	1,875	1,982	1,596
1929—									
Sept. ..	1,917	1,508	1,931	1,844	1,693	2,473	1,758	1,942	1,858
Oct. ..	1,915	1,373	1,971	1,852	1,678	2,365	1,748	1,942	1,832
Nov. ..	1,914	1,392	1,977	1,794	1,680	2,099	1,737	1,958	1,804
Dec. ..	1,914	1,369	1,792	1,784	1,678	2,195	1,800	1,958	1,760
1930—									
Jan. ..	1,916	1,353	1,676	1,725	1,674	2,192	1.797	1,942	1,719
Feb. ..	1,917	1,234	1,624	1,745	1,681	2,062	1,804	1,958	1,674
March ..	1,917	1,183	1,537	1,770	1,674	2,115	1,801	1,958	1,647
April ..	1,917	1,207	1,594	1,798	1,675	2,004	1,863	1,958	1,662
May ..	1,917	1,255	1,598	1,788	1,669	2,111	1,915	1,958	1,683
June ..	1,837	1,172	1,600	1,784	1,669	2,096	1,909	1,968	1,657
July ..	1,837	1,122	1,569	1,702	1,677	2,217	1,887	1,968	1,644
Aug. ..	1,837	1,086	1,508	1,605	1,659	2,318	1,914	1,973	1,620
Sept. ..	1,824	984	1,384	1,503	1,648	2,105	1,895	1,973	1,532
Oct ..	1,812	997	1,330	1,424	1,650	1,785	1,908	2,033	1,479
Nov. ..	1,836	964	1,231	1,346	1,666	1,717	1,911	2,033	1,437
Dec. ..	1,832	970	1,162	1,337	1,648	1,564	1,901	2,059	1,399
1931—									
Jan. ..	1,890	974	1,162	1,424	1,811	1,689	1,925	2,059	1,454
Feb. ..	1,868	1,098	1,105	1,492	1,841	1,455	1,992	2,161	1,448
March ..	1,868	1,170	1,086	1,522	1,814	1,471	1,996	2,161	1,456
April (*a*)	1,885	1,173	1,081	1,454	1,789	1,471	1,996	2,177	1,447
May ..	1,825	1,147	1,091	1,438	1,785	1,494	2,038	2,177	1,440
June ..	1,823	1,050	1,093	1,433	1,780	1,527	2,038	2,179	1,425
July ..	1,823	1,049	1,095	1,362	1,782	1,571	2,112	2,179	1,428
Aug. ..	1,810	914	1,097	1,336	1,769	1,583	2,091	2,179	1,399

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally. The index-numbers are reversible. Monthly index-numbers are shown above from September, 1929 the peak figure, and the highest monthly index-number recorded since January, 1928.

(*a*) The index-numbers for Group II. and Group V. were adjusted at the beginning of the year 1931, in view of the fact that the prices of two items were based on import values without full allowance being made for the movement in exchange.

4. **Quarterly Variations in Price Levels.**—The following table gives the index-numbers for the four quarters of 1930 and the first and second quarters of 1931 :—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices—Quarterly Index-Numbers for 1930 and the First and Second Quarters, 1931. (Base—1911 = 1,000).

Group.	No. of Commodities.	Index Numbers.					
		Jan. to March, 1930.	April to June, 1930.	July to Sept., 1930.	Oct. to Dec., 1930.	Jan. to March, 1931.	April to June, 1931.
I. Metals and Coal	14	1,917	1,890	1,833	1,826	1,875	1,844
II. Cotton, Wool, Leather, etc. ..	10	1,257	1,211	1,064	977	1,081*b*	1,123
III. Agricultural Produce	16	1,612	1,597	1,487	1,241	1,118	1,088
IV. Dairy Produce	9	1,747	1,790	1,603	1,369	1,479	1,442
V. Groceries	21	1,676	1,671	1,661	1,655	1,822*b*	1,785
VI. Meat	5	2,123	2,070	2,213	1,689	1,538	1,497
VII. Building Materials	10	1,801	1,896	1,899	1,907	1,971	2,024
VIII. Chemicals	7	1,952	1,961	1,971	2,042	2,127	2,178
All Groups (*a*)	92	1,680	1,667	1,599	1,438	1,453	1,437

(*a*) Weighted average. (*b*) *Vide* footnote on previous page.

5. **Variations since Outbreak of War.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915 to 1930, and for each month from January, 1930, to August, 1931, are shown in the following table, taking July, 1914, the last month before the outbreak of war, as base (=1,000) for each group :—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices Index-Numbers July 1914, Years 1915 to 1930, and Monthly January 1930, to August 1931. (Base—July, 1914 = 1,000).

Period.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Cotton, Wool, Leather.	III. Agricultural Produce.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
July, 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
„ 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
„ 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
„ 1918 ..	2,197	2,324	1,351	1,210	1,378	1,469	2,448	3,085	1,695
„ 1919 ..	1,930	2,169	1,858	1,373	1,469	1,448	2,602	2,827	1,801
„ 1920 ..	2,091	2,430	2,288	1,840	1,860	2,022	2,944	2,764	2,178
„ 1921 ..	1,974	1,250	1,653	1,663	1,916	1,331	2,495	2,246	1,668
„ 1922 ..	1,763	1,543	1,523	1,370	1,811	1,102	1,830	1,917	1,541
„ 1923 ..	1,658	1,972	1,664	1,527	1,693	1,590	1,848	1,885	1,704
„ 1924 ..	1,667	2,220	1,541	1,376	1,668	1,371	1,656	1,761	1,653
„ 1925 ..	1,682	1,806	1,681	1,360	1,670	1,364	1,562	1,746	1,617
„ 1926 ..	1,760	1,453	1,873	1,483	1,677	1,191	1,519	1,771	1,606
„ 1927 ..	1,782	1,515	1,709	1,516	1,671	1,302	1,482	1,820	1,593
„ 1928 ..	1,737	1,635	1,661	1,456	1,654	1,242	1,590	1,876	1,571
„ 1929 ..	1,737	1,428	1,677	1,540	1,638	1,385	1,601	1,895	1,581
„ 1930 ..	1,695	1,035	1,389	1,353	1,614	1,249	1,712	1,933	1,399
1930—									
January ..	1,740	1,242	1,569	1,434	1,623	1,352	1,640	1,894	1,506
February ..	1,741	1,133	1,520	1,451	1,629	1,271	1,647	1,909	1,467
March ..	1,741	1,086	1,439	1,472	1,622	1,304	1,644	1,909	1,444
April ..	1,741	1,108	1,492	1,495	1,624	1,236	1,700	1,909	1,457
May ..	1,741	1,152	1,495	1,487	1,618	1,302	1,748	1,909	1,475
June ..	1,669	1,076	1,498	1,483	1,618	1,293	1,743	1,920	1,452
July ..	1,669	1,031	1,468	1,415	1,625	1,367	1,722	1,920	1,441
August ..	1,669	997	1,411	1,335	1,607	1,430	1,747	1,925	1,420
September ..	1,657	904	1,295	1,249	1,597	1,298	1,730	1,925	1,343
October ..	1,646	915	1,245	1,183	1,599	1,101	1,742	1,982	1,297
November ..	1,667	885	1,152	1,119	1,614	1,059	1,744	1,982	1,260
December ..	1,664	891	1,088	1,111	1,597	964	1,735	2,008	1,226
1931—									
January ..	1,717	895	1,087	1,184	1,755	1,042	1,757	2,008	1,275
February ..	1,697	1,008	1,035	1,240	1,785	897	1,818	2,108	1,270
March ..	1,697	1,074	1,017	1,265	1,758	907	1,822	2,108	1,276
April ..	1,712	1,077	1,012	1,209	1,733	907	1,822	2,123	1,268
May ..	1,657	1,053	1,021	1,195	1,730	921	1,860	2,123	1,262
June ..	1,656	964	1,023	1,191	1,725	942	1,860	2,126	1,249
July ..	1,656	963	1,025	1,132	1,727	969	1,928	2,126	1,252
August ..	1,644	839	1,027	1,111	1,715	976	1,908	2,126	1,227

6. **Seasonal Fluctuations.**—In order to show the seasonal fluctuations in wholesale prices, index-numbers have been computed for each quarter of the year 1930. These are given in the following table, first, computed with the year 1911 as base, and secondly, with the average prices for the year 1930 as base. Corresponding figures for purchasing-power of money (retail prices of food, groceries and cost of housing) have been included for comparative purposes.

Melbourne Wholesale and Retail Prices—Quarterly Index-Numbers, 1930.

Particulars.	Jan. to March.	April to June.	July to Sept.	Oct. to Dec.	Whole Year.
Wholesale Price Index-numbers with 1911 as base (= 1,000)	1,680	1,667	1,599	1,438	1,596
Wholesale Price Index-Numbers with average for 1930 as base (= 1,000)	1,052	1,044	1,002	901	1,000
Retail Price (Food, Groceries and Cost of Housing) Index-Numbers with average for 1911 as base (= 1,000)	1,733	1,723	1,667	1,565	1,672
Retail Price (Food, Groceries, and Cost of Housing) Index-Numbers with average for 1930 as base (= 1,000)	1,036	1,030	997	936	1,000

The results evidence a greater variation in wholesale prices than in retail prices, but in both instances the index-numbers show that the prices moved uniformly in a downward direction.

7. **Prices, 1929 and 1930.**—In Section 1, Appendix, details are given of the average wholesale prices of the particular brands of commodities used in computing the index numbers in the years 1929 and 1930. Corresponding information for previous years as far back as 1871 was given in the Appendixes to previous Reports.

§ 2. Retail Prices.

1. **General.**—The methods adopted for the computation of retail price index-numbers have been described in previous issues of this Report. For the principles involved, the reader is recommended to consult the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9. A simple discussion of the retail price index for food and rent, and of its accuracy and adequacy, particularly in connexion with wage adjustment, is given in Appendix VIII. to this Report.

2. **The Composite Unit.**—The constitution of the "composite unit" is shown hereunder. The "mass-units" represent the proportionate consumption by the Australian community of the articles included.

Retail Prices.—Composite Unit.

Commodity or Service.	Unit of Quantity.	"Mass Unit."
GROUP I.—GROCERIES (INCLUDING BREAD).		
1. Bread	2 lb. loaf	468
2. Flour, ordinary ..	25 lb. bag	11
3. Tea	lb.	30
4. Coffee	"	2
5. Sugar	"	460
6. Rice	"	50
7. Sago	"	8
8. Jam	"	73
9. Oatmeal	"	35
10. Raisins	"	14
11. Currants	"	14
12. Starch	"	1
13. Blue	doz. sqs.	½
14. Candles	lb.	16
15. Soap	"	64
16. Potatoes	14 lbs.	64
17. Onions	lb.	68
18. Kerosene ..	gallon	17
GROUP II.—DAIRY PRODUCTS.		
19. Milk	quart	300
20. Butter	lb.	95
21. Cheese	"	15
22. Eggs	dozen	18
23. Bacon, middle ..	lb.	16
24. Bacon, shoulder ..	"	16
25. Ham	"	8
GROUP III.—MEAT.		
26. Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	67
27. Beef, rib	"	82
28. Beef, flank ..	"	12
29. Beef, shin ..	"	14
30. Beef, steak, rump ..	"	24
31. Beef, steak, shoulder	"	53
32. Beef, steak, stewing	"	53
33. Beef, corned round	"	39
34. Beef, brisket, with bone	"	11
35. Beef, brisket, without bone	"	32
36. Mutton, leg ..	"	92
37. Mutton, shoulder ..	"	62
38. Mutton, loin ..	"	30
39. Mutton, neck ..	"	40
40. Mutton, chops, loin	"	62
41. Mutton, chops, leg..	"	15
42. Mutton, chops, neck	"	31
43. Pork, leg	"	9½
44. Pork, loin	"	8½
45. Pork, belly ..	"	10½
46. Pork, chops ..	"	8½
GROUP IV.—HOUSING.		
47. House Accommodation	week	46½

The mass-units (or "weights") in the above table are the estimated consumption (in millions) of Australia in the years 1906–10. Objection is sometimes taken against using these old figures for Australian consumption in view of the changing habits of the people. It is true that the present consumption per head of some foods differs considerably from that in 1906–10, and for other items more accurate information is now available. But in general, when practically all prices have moved strongly in the same direction, considerable changes in the mass-units make little difference to the index-numbers, because the same mass-units, whatever they may be, must of course be used for both the base period and the period in question. The matter has been tested by using mass-units based on the latest estimates for Australian consumption, with the result that the index remains practically unaltered. There is no difficulty then in substituting the new "weights" for the old. This will be done as soon as the new estimates of consumption have been finally checked, because a divergent movement of prices in the future might introduce appreciable errors if the old "weights" were retained.

3. Collection of Data.—The retail prices of the commodities included in the "composite unit" are collected from representative retail establishments in each of the five principal towns in each State (30 towns in all). The registers of traders are forwarded to the Bureau by the Government Statisticians of each State. The prices of food are obtained monthly from about ten tradespeople in each town in respect to the various items in the regimen. The tradespeople and agents who supply the information are carefully selected to ensure accurate and representative figures for the district as a whole. It may here be pointed out that every care is exercised in the collection and computation of the price data. Returns are queried and referred for verification when there is any reason to doubt the accuracy of the information supplied. The movement in wholesale prices of the commodities is scrutinized as a check on information indicating marked increases or decreases in retail prices.

Some natural misunderstanding has occurred over the use of the word "predominant" in describing the grade of goods for which prices were quoted. When retailers first made a return of prices, they were asked to quote for the grade most in demand—the "predominant" price—and the prices have been usually so described. But there was no intention that the grade for which a price was quoted should be changed on account of a change in the demand. To change the grade in this way would be contrary to the first principles of making an index of prices, as was laid down very emphatically by Sir George Knibbs in the Appendix to the Labour Report, 1918.

The grades and qualities quoted for by the individual retailers have in fact been kept constant. Any appreciable change would be detected in the tabulated prices, and the return would be sent back for explanation or amendment. In 1931, with the very sudden fall in real wages and real incomes of all kinds, there has been a possibility of considerable changes in the predominant grade for some commodities. Retailers have therefore been requested to take special care not to change the grade or quality quoted for, and the word "predominant" has been dropped, as liable to give rise to misunderstanding. A careful scrutiny of returns has made it certain that there has been no appreciable change of grade in the foods for which prices are recorded.

A return of rents is made at the middle of each quarter by ten or more house-agents in each capital city for houses classified according to the number of rooms both for brick and wooden houses. The return is the

average rent paid for all occupied houses that conform to a certain standard, excluding houses with special advantages or disadvantages. Old-fashioned, inconvenient houses and houses out of repair or poorly situated are not taken into account. Information on similar lines is collected quarterly in each of the country towns included in the investigation.

4. **Change of Base Period.**—Attention is directed to the base period to which the index-numbers in the following tables are computed. In previous issues of the Labour Report the tabulations of retail prices of food and groceries and cost of housing (four and five rooms) prior to and including the year 1929 were computed to the weighted average cost in the six capital cities in 1911 = 1,000, while the total household expenditure tabulations, (i.e., food and groceries, rent of four and five rooms, clothing and miscellaneous items) were computed to the weighted average cost in the six capital cities in November, 1914 = 1,000. The desirability of computing retail price indexes on a post-war period was considered by a Conference of Statisticians and it was resolved that the average of the five-yearly period—1923–1927—be adopted as base for retail price indexes as from 1st of January, 1930, consequently the index-numbers in the following tables, with the exception of those given in the table showing relative cost in the 200 towns of Australia, have been re-computed to the new base.

The computation of the series of retail price index-numbers (food, groceries, and rent—all houses) used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the determination and adjustment of rates of wages has been continued on the original base, viz., the weighted average cost in the six capital cities in 1911 = 1,000. These index-numbers are published in Appendix VII. to this Report.

5. **Retail Prices—Capital Cities, 1907 to 1930.**—Index-numbers, computed separately for each group of commodities and services included in the investigation, as well as the weighted average for all groups together, for the capital city of each State are shown in the next table. The index-numbers in the following tables, which have the period 1923–27 as base, can be converted to the old base 1911 by multiplying by 1000 and dividing by the index-number for 1911.

Retail Prices Index-Numbers—Capital Cities, 1907 to 1930.

The index-numbers given in the separate groups of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show the relative cost of (say) housing, and food and groceries, since the weighted average cost for the six cities taken together during the five-yearly period 1923–1927 in each group or combination is made equal to 1,000.

Town.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
GROUP I.—GROCERIES.									
Sydney	510	574	627	1,115	1,126	1,055	986	1,106	952
Melbourne	461	521	562	1,070	1,008	942	893	989	858
Brisbane	547	614	607	1,105	1,091	980	953	1,021	877
Adelaide	510	541	598	1,076	1,023	970	894	972	846
Perth	572	720	628	1,103	1,026	950	961	1,014	908
Hobart	501	566	604	1,087	1,019	955	927	1,025	917
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	499	564	599	1,093	1,064	993	939	1,037	899
GROUP II.—DAIRY PRODUCE.									
Sydney	551	574	656	1,080	1,045	1,074	1,067	1,086	984
Melbourne	571	567	635	1,087	992	1,014	982	1,003	922
Brisbane	495	581	588	983	975	978	959	971	896
Adelaide	548	651	705	1,018	999	1,013	982	1,007	908
Perth	709	733	735	1,152	1,033	1,033	1,033	1,057	983
Hobart	564	587	695	1,091	977	988	963	993	921
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	563	591	654	1,072	1,014	1,034	1,016	1,036	946

Retail Prices Index-Numbers—Capital Cities, 1907 to 1930—*continued.*

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
GROUP III.—MEAT.									
Sydney	519	501	668	960	913	957	1,035	1,068	1,034
Melbourne	557	485	663	1,030	967	969	981	1,029	991
Brisbane	535	488	610	897	879	840	882	823	741
Adelaide	553	541	784	1,095	1,123	1,141	1,162	1,232	1,107
Perth	789	824	881	1,103	1,081	1,065	1,218	1,220	1,025
Hobart	668	638	780	1,244	1,149	1,084	1,032	1,056	1,036
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	558	522	691	1,010	967	980	1,029	1,061	1,001
GROUPS I., II., AND III. COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.									
Sydney	523	553	646	1,062	1,044	1,032	1,021	1,090	984
Melbourne	517	523	610	1,063	992	969	942	1,004	913
Brisbane	530	569	603	1,014	1,000	940	935	951	844
Adelaide	532	570	679	1,066	1,045	1,030	993	1,055	937
Perth	670	753	728	1,116	1,043	1,004	1,053	1,084	961
Hobart	565	592	678	1,133	1,045	1,000	966	1,025	952
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	533	559	640	1,064	1,023	1,000	985	1,044	941
GROUP IV.—HOUSING (WEIGHTED AVERAGE 4 AND 5 ROOMS).									
Sydney	593	701	760	989	1,117	1,109	1,143	1,162	1,197
Melbourne	455	569	628	820	1,037	1,046	1,087	1,094	1,011
Brisbane	283	373	466	630	815	832	839	841	775
Adelaide	510	706	655	809	927	942	1,022	986	916
Perth	458	524	589	739	898	922	941	955	979
Hobart	405	452	518	881	996	966	939	932	914
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	497	612	662	862	1,026	1,030	1,066	1,073	1,047
ALL GROUPS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.									
Sydney	548	606	687	1,036	1,070	1,060	1,064	1,115	1,059
Melbourne	495	539	616	977	1,008	996	993	1,036	948
Brisbane	442	500	554	877	934	902	901	912	819
Adelaide	524	618	671	975	1,003	999	1,003	1,030	929
Perth	594	672	679	982	992	975	1,013	1,038	968
Hobart	508	542	621	1,044	1,027	988	956	992	939
Weighted Average (*a*) ..	520	578	648	992	1,024	1,011	1,014	1,054	978

(*a*) For all capital cities.

6. **Change of Basis for Rent Constituent.**—The preceding table takes into account houses of four and five rooms only in respect of rent. Up till the end of 1924, the rent of "all houses" was the basis of the index. The "all-houses" index is still continued for the use of the Arbitration Court (Appendix VII.). There is no appreciable difference in the *movement* of the rent index for any town, whether "all houses" or only four and five-roomed houses are taken into account. There is, however, a substantial difference in the index-number itself, because the base is the average for the six capitals, and the capitals vary considerably from one another in the proportion of four and five-roomed houses to total houses.

7. **Retail Prices, Thirty Towns, 1926 to 1931.**—The following tables give index-numbers representing the variations in the cost of food and groceries (46 commodities), in 30 of the more important towns in Australia at yearly, quarterly, and monthly periods for the years specified. In addition, index-numbers are given showing for the years specified the quarterly and yearly variations in house rents and in the combined cost of food, groceries, and housing.

Retail Prices Index-Numbers 30 Towns, 1926 to 1931 : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923-1927, as Base (*a*) (= 1,000).

	N.S.W.—INDEX-NUMBERS.						VICTORIA.—INDEX-NUMBERS.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
FOOD AND GROCERIES—46 COMMODITIES.												
1926 ..	1,044	1,035	1,184	1,035	1,002	1,046	992	1,013	1,008	985	981	993
1927 ..	1,032	1,025	1,205	1,030	996	1,036	969	989	990	965	949	970
1928 ..	1,021	1,017	1,206	1,035	989	1,026	942	965	966	953	928	944
1929 ..	1,090	1,061	1,286	1,094	1,046	1,092	1,004	1,029	1,041	1,010	990	1,006
1930 ..	**984**	**974**	**1,182**	**977**	**964**	**988**	**913**	**952**	**958**	**909**	**932**	**916**
1930 1st Qtr.	1,020	1,016	1,238	1,038	1,001	1,025	941	988	988	931	961	945
2nd ,,	1,011	1,004	1,227	1,007	993	1,016	938	986	997	935	958	942
3rd ,,	977	966	1,157	963	957	981	917	955	969	908	924	920
4th ,,	927	908	1,106	900	903	929	854	880	880	861	886	857
1931 1st Qtr.	899	898	1,063	875	884	903	835	854	863	806	842	836
2nd ,,	888	887	1,041	867	873	891	793	816	822	775	797	795
1930.												
January ..	1,024	1,022	1,250	1,060	1,010	1,030	948	994	995	941	962	951
February ..	1,017	1,015	1,231	1,039	999	1,022	940	986	981	930	964	943
March ..	1,019	1,012	1,233	1,015	996	1,024	936	985	987	921	957	939
April ..	1,017	1,008	1,231	1,021	999	1,022	941	993	998	937	969	946
May ..	1,012	1,004	1,227	999	995	1,016	940	985	997	936	954	944
June ..	1,004	999	1,224	999	985	1,009	932	979	996	931	951	937
July ..	993	989	1,200	986	971	998	931	967	985	917	928	933
August ..	989	969	1,153	975	964	991	922	963	970	914	923	925
September ..	951	939	1,117	929	937	954	899	937	952	892	922	902
October ..	930	923	1,098	907	925	934	870	903	913	885	917	874
November ..	931	908	1,110	896	883	933	850	877	862	858	881	852
December ..	919	895	1,111	895	902	921	843	859	865	840	859	845
1931.												
January ..	915	903	1,094	880	896	918	852	869	871	822	854	852
February ..	897	903	1,052	874	881	901	835	855	863	803	849	835
March ..	887	890	1,045	871	875	891	819	838	854	794	823	820
April ..	896	898	1,048	881	886	900	806	826	830	791	794	807
May ..	883	893	1,045	865	869	888	793	814	820	769	800	794
June ..	885	870	1,029	856	863	887	781	809	816	763	799	783
HOUSING—(WEIGHTED AVERAGE 4 AND 5 ROOMS).												
1926 ..	1,117	1,039	673	1,065	891	1,097	1,037	625	730	960	740	1,003
1927 ..	1,109	1,062	693	1,138	866	1,093	1,046	631	788	997	793	1,015
1928 ..	1,143	1,089	702	1,183	885	1,125	1,087	675	793	980	831	1,053
1929 ..	1,162	1,082	701	1,240	880	1,142	1,094	704	817	941	849	1,060
1930 ..	**1,197**	**1,044**	**727**	**1,181**	**978**	**1,170**	**1,011**	**696**	**750**	**883**	**865**	**982**
1930 1st Qtr.	1,245	1,066	728	1,221	1,049	1,215	1,048	692	769	932	864	1,017
2nd ,,	1,213	1,050	728	1,230	984	1,185	1,040	715	763	902	866	1,010
3rd ,,	1,176	1,038	725	1,183	966	1,151	1,005	697	740	865	866	976
4th ,,	1,152	1,021	725	1,091	980	1,128	950	680	727	834	866	926
1931 1st Qtr.	1,107	971	738	1,028	959	1,084	905	639	689	846	834	883
2nd ,,	1,057	924	730	975	938	1,036	875	619	664	823	816	854
FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.												
1926 ..	1,070	1,036	1,003	1,046	963	1,064	1,008	876	909	976	896	997
1927 ..	1,060	1,038	1,023	1,068	950	1,056	996	862	918	976	894	986
1928 ..	1,064	1,043	1,027	1,087	952	1,061	993	862	904	962	894	983
1929 ..	1,115	1,068	1,078	1,146	987	1,110	1,036	914	962	985	940	1,026
1930 ..	**1,059**	**998**	**1,021**	**1,050**	**969**	**1,052**	**948**	**861**	**884**	**900**	**909**	**940**
1930 1st Qtr.	1,100	1,034	1,057	1,103	1,018	1,093	979	883	910	931	927	970
2nd ,,	1,083	1,020	1,050	1,086	990	1,076	974	890	914	923	925	966
3rd ,,	1,048	992	1,004	1,041	961	1,041	948	864	888	893	904	940
4th ,,	1,007	948	971	968	930	1,000	888	809	826	851	879	881
1931 1st Qtr.	973	924	948	929	911	967	860	778	801	820	839	853
2nd ,,	948	900	930	906	896	943	822	746	766	792	804	816

(*a*) See explanatory note at centre of page 15.

Retail Prices Index-Numbers 30 Towns, 1926 to 1931 : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923–1927, as Base (*a*) (= 1,000)—*continued.*

	QUEENSLAND—INDEX-NUMBERS.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
FOOD AND GROCERIES (46 COMMODITIES).												
1926 ..	1,000	990	1,048	1,135	1,004	1,008	1,045	1,077	1,116	1,024	1,109	1,049
1927 ..	940	912	1,005	1,139	969	951	1,030	1,071	1,071	1,015	1,102	1,033
1928 ..	935	891	970	1,087	930	940	993	1,059	1,048	997	1,110	999
1929 ..	951	929	1,011	1,102	971	961	1,055	1,137	1,111	1,034	1,166	1,061
1930 ..	**844**	**846**	**912**	**956**	**877**	**855**	**937**	**1,036**	**1,019**	**924**	**1,044**	**944**
1930 1st Qtr.	898	889	975	1,036	923	909	995	1,086	1,072	982	1,093	1,002
2nd ,,	860	865	926	1,004	899	872	983	1,080	1,068	937	1,089	990
3rd ,,	833	837	901	926	870	844	913	1,028	998	918	1,043	922
4th ,,	784	794	847	899	817	795	855	951	939	862	950	863
1931 1st Qtr.	799	803	870	916	813	810	835	930	910	794	912	842
2nd ,,	788	766	848	916	804	797	810	886	868	774	884	816
1930.												
January ..	914	911	996	1,060	942	927	1,006	1,089	1,081	1,009	1,103	1,013
February ..	906	888	976	1,023	925	915	990	1,084	1,069	971	1,085	997
March ..	873	868	954	1,025	903	886	990	1,085	1,067	965	1,090	997
April ..	869	873	937	1,025	903	881	998	1,086	1,075	947	1,098	1,005
May ..	857	868	927	1,010	901	871	989	1,085	1,065	938	1,088	996
June ..	853	855	916	978	893	864	962	1,069	1,066	925	1,080	971
July ..	847	849	917	953	880	858	937	1,056	1,024	924	1,060	946
August ..	837	840	904	923	874	847	914	1,020	996	921	1,045	923
September ..	816	821	881	903	856	826	889	1,007	973	908	1,024	898
October ..	801	807	866	902	841	812	877	956	954	879	1,006	885
November ..	777	793	841	898	813	789	849	947	937	857	928	857
December ..	774	781	834	898	796	785	838	948	927	849	916	846
1931.												
January ..	795	794	858	903	796	804	846	949	932	829	917	854
February ..	806	814	877	920	819	817	829	931	916	781	914	837
March ..	796	802	876	925	825	809	829	911	881	772	906	834
April ..	797	783	864	920	809	807	824	903	878	779	897	829
May ..	787	768	845	914	810	796	812	885	868	775	882	817
June ..	780	746	834	914	792	787	796	870	857	768	873	801
HOUSING (WEIGHTED AVERAGE 4 AND 5 ROOMS).												
1926 ..	815	739	663	568	714	785	927	505	694	529	745	894
1927 ..	832	743	698	564	745	802	942	508	701	511	801	908
1928 ..	839	727	653	677	679	805	1,022	481	699	549	770	979
1929 ..	841	719	633	745	678	806	986	443	695	561	816	945
1930 ..	**775**	**727**	**685**	**720**	**668**	**759**	**916**	**398**	**715**	**586**	**810**	**882**
1930 1st Qtr.	831	733	670	730	671	802	972	415	700	586	822	932
2nd ,,	782	741	701	739	671	768	944	396	711	586	814	906
3rd ,,	756	733	695	716	671	745	909	392	728	586	814	875
4th ,,	730	703	674	694	660	720	841	390	721	586	788	813
1931 1st Qtr.	690	622	646	657	660	679	807	385	703	586	735	781
2nd ,,	689	622	630	657	639	677	760	426	684	586	714	740
FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.												
1926 ..	934	901	911	934	901	929	1,003	874	966	848	980	994
1927 ..	902	852	896	935	890	898	999	871	940	836	995	989
1928 ..	901	833	858	942	841	892	1,003	854	925	838	990	992
1929 ..	912	855	877	975	867	906	1,030	891	963	866	1,042	1,020
1930 ..	**819**	**804**	**832**	**879**	**803**	**821**	**929**	**810**	**911**	**804**	**961**	**922**
1930 1st Qtr.	874	834	867	927	834	871	987	848	940	841	996	977
2nd ,,	832	821	846	910	818	835	969	837	941	812	991	960
3rd ,,	806	800	828	852	800	809	912	802	902	800	962	906
4th ,,	765	761	785	827	761	768	850	752	862	764	893	845
1931 1st Qtr.	760	739	791	824	759	764	825	737	836	720	849	820
2nd ,,	753	715	770	824	745	754	792	723	803	707	824	789

(*a*) See note at centre of page 15.

Retail Prices Index-Numbers 30 Towns, 1926 to 1931: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923-1927, as Base (*b*) (= 1,000)—*continued.*

	WESTERN AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						TASMANIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						Weighted Average 6 Capital Towns.	Weighted Average 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam (*a*).	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie (*a*).	Devonport (*a*).	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.		
FOOD AND GROCERIES (46 COMMODITIES).														
3 ..	1,043	1,188	1,128	1,122	1,124	1,064	1,045	1,031	1,062	1,054	1,165	1,046	1,023	1,027
7 ..	1,004	1,148	1,098	1,109	1,101	1,026	1,000	987	1,017	1,006	1,105	1,001	1,000	1,004
8 ..	1,053	1,173	1,104	1,130	1,096	1,069	966	949	1,006	973	1,080	967	985	989
9 ..	1,084	1,267	1,157	1,173	1,149	1,108	1,025	995	1,078	1,038	1,140	1,024	1,044	1,047
0 ..	961	1,138	1,041	1,070	1,055	986	952	937	1,002	938	1,068	953	941	946
0 1st Qtr.	1,018	1,167	1,084	1,128	1,105	1,039	985	970	1,025	961	1,085	985	980	985
2nd ,,	1,011	1,191	1,093	1,127	1,103	1,036	982	958	1,038	961	1,090	981	970	976
3rd ,,	951	1,162	1,047	1,071	1,064	980	954	939	1,006	946	1,073	955	935	941
4th ,,	865	1,031	942	951	946	887	886	880	938	882	1,023	891	877	882
1 1st Qtr.	877	1,012	913	922	938	894	864	853	870	867	992	866	860	864
2nd ,,	866	1,007	892	916	935	884	826	822	847	827	929	829	837	841
1930.														
uary ..	1,025	1,164	1,090	1,144	1,110	1,045	995	981	1,032	965	1,087	994	987	993
ruary ..	1,011	1,168	1,080	1,125	1,106	1,033	984	962	1,020	957	1,084	982	978	983
ch ..	1,018	1,169	1,082	1,117	1,101	1,039	977	966	1,023	962	1,085	979	974	980
il ..	1,013	1,161	1,089	1,132	1,102	1,035	985	959	1,040	963	1,084	982	976	982
y ..	1,022	1,205	1,100	1,128	1,103	1,047	989	960	1,045	962	1,095	985	972	978
e ..	998	1,208	1,090	1,121	1,104	1,027	974	956	1,031	958	1,090	974	961	968
y ..	985	1,190	1,090	1,099	1,077	1,013	964	946	1,024	952	1,087	965	952	958
gust ..	957	1,169	1,049	1,081	1,061	986	964	942	1,018	953	1,076	963	942	947
tember ..	911	1,128	1,003	1,033	1,055	941	932	928	978	932	1,056	937	912	918
ober ..	882	1,082	963	978	1,004	910	894	894	951	889	1,028	901	889	895
vember ..	856	1,026	937	945	920	879	885	865	944	888	1,015	886	876	880
ember ..	855	984	926	931	914	873	879	882	919	869	1,026	886	867	871
1931.														
uary ..	870	998	937	922	926	887	875	867	896	864	1,027	879	872	876
ruary ..	879	1,018	914	920	938	896	866	856	854	876	979	867	859	864
ch ..	882	1,020	887	926	948	899	850	837	860	860	971	852	849	854
il ..	879	1,017	889	923	946	896	838	829	854	849	956	841	847	851
y ..	869	1,008	901	912	937	887	833	819	847	820	928	832	835	840
e ..	849	995	886	913	923	868	806	818	840	811	904	815	828	833
HOUSING (WEIGHTED AVERAGE 4 AND 5 ROOMS).														
3 ..	898	549	858	707	861	856	996	797	785	759	396	899	1,026	992
7 ..	922	541	894	713	870	876	966	787	770	743	424	878	1,030	998
8 ..	941	541	917	671	957	893	939	845	778	711	460	878	1,066	1,032
9 ..	955	543	917	675	985	906	932	831	781	733	520	873	1,073	1,037
0 ..	979	582	903	783	1,063	934	914	806	726	774	567	858	1,047	1,013
0 1st Qtr.	1,001	562	905	786	1,012	949	923	809	764	780	559	865	1,090	1,052
2nd ,,	993	579	905	786	1,039	945	912	809	740	782	560	858	1,067	1,032
3rd ,,	993	593	901	779	1,101	947	911	804	707	773	571	854	1,035	1,003
4th ,,	931	592	899	780	1,100	896	911	803	694	761	579	853	994	966
1 1st Qtr.	924	593	870	789	1,043	888	915	785	710	768	584	852	954	928
2nd ,,	898	627	862	786	1,042	870	923	783	710	737	594	855	918	894
FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.														
3 ..	992	961	1,032	975	1,031	990	1,027	948	964	950	892	994	1,024	1,015
7 ..	975	933	1,026	968	1,019	973	988	916	929	913	864	957	1,011	1,002
8 ..	1,013	949	1,038	967	1,047	1,007	956	912	926	880	860	935	1,014	1,004
9 ..	1,038	1,010	1,072	996	1,090	1,036	992	937	972	930	920	970	1,054	1,044
0 ..	968	941	992	968	1,058	967	939	891	904	880	890	919	978	970
0 1st Qtr.	1,012	953	1,020	1,007	1,072	1,007	963	913	932	897	898	942	1,019	1,009
2nd ,,	1,005	974	1,026	1,006	1,080	1,004	957	905	933	898	902	937	1,004	996
3rd ,,	966	960	995	967	1,077	968	938	891	900	885	895	919	971	963
4th ,,	888	875	927	891	1,001	890	895	853	851	839	865	878	919	912
1 1st Qtr.	894	864	897	875	975	892	882	829	813	832	848	861	893	887
2nd ,,	877	872	881	870	973	879	860	808	798	795	810	838	866	860

(*a*) The towns of Midland Junction (W.A.), Zeehan (Tas.), and Beaconsfield (Tas.), were replaced in 1923 by Northam (W.A.), Burnie (Tas.), and Devonport (Tas.). (*b*) See note at centre of page 15.

In so far as they relate to the capital cities the index-numbers in these tables are comparable in every respect with those given on page 16 for the respective groups, and where they relate to the same period are identical in both tables.

The index-numbers in the separate parts of the table cannot be directly compared with one another in order to show the relative cost of (say) housing and food and groceries, since the weighted average cost during the five-yearly period, 1923–1927 is in each case made equal to 1,000.

The last two columns in each of the tables above refer to the weighted average for the six capital cities and for the 30 towns. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1923 and subsequent years are as follows :—

Population Weights Used for Different Towns.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	899	Melbourne	766	Brisbane	210	Adelaide	255	Perth, etc.	155	Hobart	52
Newcastle	84	Ballarat ..	36	T'woomba	21	Kadina,etc	13	Kalg'lie,etc	19	Launceston	24
Broken Hill	26	Bendigo ..	30	Rockham'n	24	Pt. Pirie	10	Northam	4	Burnie ..	3
Goulburn	13	Geelong ..	32	Chrts. Twrs.	9	Mt. Gamb'r	4	Bunbury	4	Devonport	5
Bathurst	9	W'nambo'l	8	Warwick	6	Peterbor'gh	2	Geraldton	4	Queenst'wn	3

The weights used are based on the 1921 Census populations and represent to the nearest 1,000, the actual populations at that date.

8. **Retail Price Index-Numbers in Terms of Currency.**—In each section of the next table the average cost for the six capital cities during the five-yearly period 1923–1927 has been taken as base = 20s. The figures measure the variations in the cost of—(*a*) food and groceries ; (*b*) house rent ; and (*c*) food, groceries, and house rent combined from year to year in each city separately (in the vertical lines), and the relative cost in the several cities in each year (in the horizontal lines). Thus, by referring to the section of the table relating to food, groceries, and house rent combined, it will be seen that 12s. 1d. in Sydney in 1911 was equivalent to 10s. in

Brisbane, or 10s. 10d. in Hobart, while 17s. 9d. in Melbourne for the last quarter of 1930 was equivalent to 8s. 10d. in Brisbane in 1907, or 13s. 5d. in Perth in 1911.

Retail Prices—Amounts necessary on the Average in each Year specified from 1907 to 1931 to purchase in each Capital City what would have cost on the average £1 during the five-yearly period, 1923-1927, in the Capitals regarded as a whole.

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Cities.
FOOD AND GROCERIES (46 COMMODITIES).							
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1907 ..	10 6	10 4	10 7	10 8	13 5	11 4	10 8
1911 ..	11 1	10 6	11 5	11 5	15 1	11 10	11 2
1921 ..	21 3	21 3	20 3	21 4	22 4	22 8	21 3
1925 ..	20 0	19 7	19 5	20 7	21 8	20 3	20 0
1926 ..	20 11	19 10	20 0	20 11	20 10	20 11	20 5
1927 ..	20 8	19 5	18 10	20 7	20 1	20 0	20 0
1928 ..	20 5	18 10	18 8	19 10	21 1	19 4	19 8
1929 ..	21 10	20 1	19 0	21 1	21 8	20 6	20 11
1930 ..	**19 8**	**18 3**	**16 11**	**18 9**	**19 3**	**19 1**	**18 10**
1930 1st Qtr.	20 5	18 10	18 0	19 11	20 4	19 8	19 7
„ 2nd „	20 3	18 9	17 2	19 8	20 3	19 8	19 5
„ 3rd „	19 6	18 4	16 8	18 3	19 0	19 1	18 8
„ 4th „	18 6	17 1	15 8	17 1	17 4	17 9	17 6
1931 1st „	18 0	16 8	16 0	16 8	17 7	17 3	17 2
„ 2nd „	17 9	15 10	15 9	16 2	17 4	16 6	16 9
HOUSE RENT (WEIGHTED AVERAGE 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED).							
1907 ..	11 10	9 1	5 8	10 2	9 2	8 1	9 11
1911 ..	14 0	11 5	7 6	14 1	10 6	9 0	12 3
1921 ..	19 9	16 5	12 7	16 2	14 9	17 7	17 3
1925 ..	22 11	19 7	14 3	19 3	16 5	20 2	20 2
1926 ..	22 4	20 9	16 4	18 6	18 0	19 11	20 6
1927 ..	22 2	20 11	16 8	18 10	18 5	19 4	20 7
1928 ..	22 10	21 9	16 9	20 5	18 10	18 9	21 4
1929 ..	23 3	21 11	16 10	19 9	19 1	18 8	21 6
1930 ..	**23 11**	**20 3**	**15 6**	**18 4**	**19 7**	**18 3**	**20 11**
1930 1st Qtr.	24 11	21 0	16 7	19 5	20 0	18 6	21 10
„ 2nd „	24 3	20 10	15 8	18 11	19 10	18 3	21 4
„ 3rd „	23 6	20 1	15 1	18 2	19 10	18 3	20 8
„ 4th „	23 1	19 0	14 7	16 10	18 7	18 3	19 11
1931 1st „	22 2	18 1	13 10	16 2	18 6	18 4	19 1
„ 2nd „	21 2	17 6	13 9	15 2	18 0	18 6	18 4
FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSE RENT COMBINED.							
1907 ..	11 0	9 11	8 10	10 6	11 11	10 2	10 5
1911 ..	12 1	10 9	10 0	12 4	13 5	10 10	11 7
1921 ..	20 9	19 6	17 6	19 6	19 8	20 11	19 10
1925 ..	21 0	19 7	17 7	20 1	19 10	20 3	20 0
1926 ..	21 5	20 2	18 8	20 1	19 10	20 6	20 6
1927 ..	21 2	19 11	18 0	20 0	19 6	19 9	20 3
1928 ..	21 3	19 10	18 0	20 1	20 3	19 1	20 3
1929 ..	22 4	20 9	18 3	20 7	20 9	19 10	21 1
1930 ..	**21 2**	**18 11**	**16 5**	**18 7**	**19 4**	**18 9**	**19 7**
1930 1st Qtr.	22 0	19 7	17 6	19 9	20 3	19 3	20 5
„ 2nd „	21 8	19 6	16 8	19 5	20 1	19 2	20 1
„ 3rd „	21 0	19 0	16 1	18 3	19 4	18 9	19 5
„ 4th „	20 2	17 9	15 4	17 0	17 9	17 11	18 5
1931 1st „	19 6	17 2	15 2	16 6	17 11	17 8	17 10
„ 2nd „	19 0	16 5	15 1	15 10	17 7	17 2	17 4

9. **Price Details, 1930.**—The summarized results of price-movements are published quarterly, and the average retail prices of food and groceries for each month are published in the Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics. In Section II. of the Appendix to this Report the average retail price of each item of the food and groceries regimen during 1930 is given for the 30 towns included in the investigation. Information with regard to house rents is published quarterly in the Summary, and annually in the Labour Reports. In appendixes to Labour Report No. 1, detailed particulars were given of retail prices and house rents in the capital cities for each year 1901 to 1911. In Report No. 2 and subsequent issues information in detail regarding retail prices and rents during each year has been published.

§ 3. Food, &c., Clothing and Miscellaneous.

1. General.—In the following Section the results are included of investigations into retail price variations of all items ordinarily entering into household expenditure classified into four main groups :—Food and Groceries ; Rent ; Clothing ; and Miscellaneous.

The tabulation by the Bureau was undertaken as a result of the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage which was appointed in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

(i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.

(ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.

(iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

This Commission issued two reports—the first in November 1920, and the second in April 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at the 1st November 1920 for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage—Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Melbourne.	Sydney.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent ..	1 0 6	1 2 0	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Food ..	2 6 2	2 6 9	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Clothing ..	1 9 0	1 7 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 0 10	1 1 4	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total ..	5 16 6	5 17 1	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

The corresponding cost of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first Report) for the years 1914 to 1920 was as follows :—

Royal Commission on Basic Wage—Cost of Commodities, etc., 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Melbourne.	Sydney.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914	3 7 9	3 12 11	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915	3 16 9	4 1 6	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916	3 17 5	4 4 6	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917	4 2 2	4 9 8	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918	4 8 10	4 14 8	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919	4 18 5	5 5 3	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920	5 16 6	5 17 1	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that "a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)." After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.

The results of the investigations by the Bureau into the variations in the cost of living since 1920 according to this standard are given hereafter.

2. **Methods Adopted.**—The Commission was concerned principally with ascertaining variations in the cost of the regimen adopted, which is described in the "Indicator List" published in the Report. It appeared, however, that the usefulness of the investigations by this Bureau would have been somewhat limited if confined in the way suggested by the Commission, and it was decided, therefore, to apply to a more detailed inquiry the method of index-numbers already used in the investigations into variations in the cost of food, groceries and housing.

The ordinary expenditure of a household has been grouped under four heads—(i) Food and Groceries ; (ii) Housing ; (iii) Clothing ; (iv) Other Requirements (Miscellaneous).

It was decided to adopt for food, groceries and house rent,* the commodities method and weighting already in use, and the commodities and quantities conform very closely to those given in the "Indicator Lists" of the Commission. With regard to housing, the Commission adopted a certain type of 5-roomed house as its standard in determining the amount allowed for house rent, but the figures quoted by this Bureau, while not confined to any particular type, fairly represent variations in the rent for the type of house described by the Commission.

* The basis of housing accommodation has been altered in this section to conform with the basis adopted in § 2.

Inquiries by this Bureau had been confined to food, groceries and housing. It became necessary, therefore, to investigate the cost of clothing and miscellaneous items. With regard to clothing, the Basic Wage Commission collected a large amount of information as to prices and duration of articles, and this has been used in computing the index-numbers given in the following tables.

With regard to miscellaneous expenditure, inquiries were made regarding cost of fuel and light, household utensils, drapery, crockery, and other items in the "Indicator Lists", and the aggregate expenditure thereon has been computed in the same manner as that for clothing.

The item "groceries (not food)" has been omitted from miscellaneous expenditure, though it was so described by the Commission, as the index-numbers already published by this Bureau cover the articles allowed for under this heading, such as soap, starch, blue, &c.

In respect to clothing and a good deal of miscellaneous expenditure, it is not possible to ensure continuity of grade or quality, as it is with food and groceries. It is therefore necessary in many cases to fall back on the "predominant" price—the price of the grade or quality most in demand. The index-numbers for clothing and "miscellaneous expenditure" are therefore affected by changing standards and are not such true measures of prices as the index-numbers for food and groceries. The complete "all-items" index is consequently less trustworthy than the food-and-rent index.

3. **Base.**—For comparative purposes, it was necessary to fix some period as base. The new series of index-numbers, covering all items of household expenditure, were computed in the first instance from price data relating to the month of November 1914. This period was adopted owing to the difficulty of securing information regarding prices of clothing and miscellaneous items for earlier periods. While the index-numbers for 1914 in the following tables relate to the month of November, they may be accepted as typical of conditions immediately preceding the war. For base, the weighted average cost for the six capital cities was taken, and the aggregate expenditure in November 1914 made equal to 1,000. The index-numbers were computed to this base up to and including the 4th Quarter 1929. In accordance with the decision of the Conference of Statisticians that a post-war period should be adopted as base, an alteration was made as from 1st January 1930, and the index-numbers in the following tables have been computed to a post-war base, viz., the weighted average cost in the six capital cities during the five-yearly period—1923–1927—the average annual aggregate expenditure in this period being made equal to 1,000.

4. **Variations—Thirty Towns.**—The investigations have been extended to the five principal towns in each State for the months of November 1921, and May, August and November 1922, and quarterly for the year 1923 and subsequently. The task of securing information for previous years as to prices of clothing and miscellaneous requirements in towns other than the capitals was considered unnecessary. So far as the capitals are concerned, details were already available in the Report of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage. Information of this nature is at present collected quarterly for all the towns, and quarterly index-numbers are available.

5. **Retail Prices—Thirty Towns—Nov. 1914 to 2nd Quarter 1931.**—The following tables give index-numbers for (i) Food and Groceries; (ii) Housing; (iii) Food, Groceries and Housing Combined; (iv) Clothing; (v) Miscellaneous Requirements; (vi) Food and Groceries, Housing, Clothing, and Miscellaneous Requirements combined.

Food and Groceries (46 Commodities) Index-Numbers—30 Towns; Weighted Average Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 as base (= 1,000).

Period.	N.S.W.—Index-Numbers.						Victoria.—Index-Numbers.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 ..	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Years 1923-27	1,012	1,015	1,155	1,018	974	1,016	978	989	993	967	967	978
Year 1926 ..	1,044	1,035	1,184	1,035	1,002	1,046	992	1,013	1,008	985	981	993
,, 1927 ..	1,032	1,025	1,205	1,030	996	1,036	969	989	990	965	949	970
,, 1928 ..	1,021	1,017	1,206	1,035	989	1,026	942	965	966	953	928	944
,, 1929 ..	1,090	1,061	1,286	1,094	1,046	1,092	1,004	1,029	1,041	1,010	990	1,006
,, 1930 ..	984	974	1,182	977	964	988	913	952	958	909	932	916
1930 1st Qtr.	1,020	1,016	1,238	1,038	1,001	1,025	941	988	988	931	961	945
,, 2nd ,,	1,011	1,004	1,227	1,007	993	1,016	938	986	997	935	958	942
,, 3rd ,,	977	966	1,157	963	957	981	917	955	969	908	924	920
,, 4th ,,	927	908	1,106	900	903	929	854	880	880	861	886	857
1931 1st Qtr.	899	898	1,063	875	884	903	835	854	863	806	842	836
,, 2nd ,,	888	887	1,041	867	873	891	793	816	822	775	797	795

Period.	Queensland.—Index-Numbers.						South Australia.—Index-Numbers.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 ..	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	955	895	949	981	936	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Years 1923-27	960	934	988	1,074	951	965	1,025	1,032	1,060	989	1,064	1,026
Year 1926 ..	1,000	990	1,048	1,135	1,004	1,008	1,045	1,077	1,116	1,024	1,109	1,049
,, 1927 ..	940	912	1,005	1,139	969	951	1,030	1,071	1,071	1,015	1,102	1,033
,, 1928 ..	935	891	970	1,087	930	940	993	1,059	1,048	997	1,110	999
,, 1929 ..	951	929	1,011	1,102	971	961	1,055	1,137	1,111	1,034	1,166	1,061
,, 1930 ..	844	846	912	966	877	855	937	1,036	1,019	924	1,044	944
1930 1st Qtr.	898	889	975	1,036	923	909	995	1,086	1,072	982	1,093	1,002
,, 2nd ,,	860	865	926	1,004	899	872	983	1,080	1,068	937	1,089	990
,, 3rd ,,	833	837	901	926	870	844	913	1,028	998	918	1,043	922
,, 4th ,,	784	794	847	899	817	795	855	951	939	862	950	863
1931 1st Qtr.	799	803	870	916	813	810	835	930	910	794	912	842
,, 2nd ,,	788	766	848	916	804	797	810	886	868	774	884	816

Period.	Western Australia.—Index-Numbers.						Tasmania.—Index-Numbers.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 ..	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
,, 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108	996	1,077	1,011	950	954
Years 1923-27	1,042	1,179	1,104	1,094	1,112	1,060	1,027	1,013	1,040	1,035	1,127	1,027	1,000*a*	1,003
Year 1926 ..	1,043	1,188	1,128	1,122	1,124	1,064	1,045	1,031	1,062	1,054	1,165	1,046	1,023	1,027
,, 1927 ..	1,004	1,148	1,098	1,109	1,101	1,026	1,000	987	1,017	1,006	1,105	1,001	1,000	1,004
,, 1928 ..	1,053	1,173	1,104	1,130	1,096	1,069	966	949	1,006	973	1,080	967	985	989
,, 1929 ..	1,084	1,267	1,157	1,173	1,149	1,108	1,025	995	1,078	1,038	1,140	1,024	1,044	1,047
,, 1930 ..	961	1,138	1,041	1,070	1,055	986	952	937	1,002	938	1,068	953	941	946
1930 1st Qtr.	1,018	1,167	1,084	1,128	1,105	1,039	985	970	1,025	961	1,085	985	980	985
,, 2nd ,,	1,011	1,191	1,093	1,127	1,103	1,036	982	958	1,038	961	1,090	981	970	976
,, 3rd ,,	951	1,162	1,047	1,071	1,064	980	954	939	1,006	946	1,073	955	935	941
,, 4th ,,	865	1,031	942	951	946	887	886	880	938	882	1,023	891	877	882
1931 1st Qtr.	877	1,012	913	922	938	894	864	853	870	867	992	866	860	864
,, 2nd ,,	866	1,007	892	916	935	884	826	822	847	827	929	829	837	841

(*a*) Base.

Housing (4 and 5 rooms).—Index-Numbers—30 Towns; Weighted Average Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923–1927 as base (= 1,000).

Period.	N.S.W.—Index-Numbers.						Victoria.—Index-Numbers.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 ..	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Years 1923–27	1,111	984	617	1,050	801	1,084	993	607	679	863	753	959
Year 1926 ..	1,117	1,039	673	1,065	891	1,097	1,037	625	730	960	740	1,003
„ 1927 ..	1,109	1,062	693	1,138	866	1,093	1,046	631	788	997	793	1,015
„ 1928 ..	1,143	1,089	702	1,183	885	1,125	1,087	675	793	980	831	1,053
„ 1929 ..	1,162	1,082	701	1,240	880	1,142	1,094	704	817	941	849	1,060
„ 1930 ..	1,197	1,044	727	1,181	978	1,170	1,011	696	750	883	865	982
1930, 1st Qtr.	1,245	1,066	728	1,221	1,049	1,215	1,048	692	769	932	864	1,017
„ 2nd „	1,213	1,050	728	1,230	984	1,185	1,040	715	763	902	866	1,010
„ 3rd „	1,176	1,038	725	1,183	966	1,151	1,005	697	740	865	866	976
„ 4th „	1,152	1,021	725	1,091	980	1,128	950	680	727	834	866	926
1931, 1st Qtr.	1,107	971	738	1,028	959	1,084	905	639	689	846	834	883
„ 2nd „	1,057	924	730	975	938	1,036	875	619	664	823	816	854

Period.	Queensland.—Index-Numbers.						South Australia.—Index-Numbers.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 ..	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	629	547	470	528	535	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Years 1923–27	754	682	590	560	679	726	932	560	651	506	738	899
Year 1926 ..	815	739	663	568	714	785	927	505	694	529	745	894
„ 1927 ..	832	743	698	564	745	802	942	508	701	511	801	908
„ 1928 ..	839	727	653	677	679	805	1,022	481	699	549	770	979
„ 1929 ..	841	719	633	745	678	806	986	443	695	561	816	945
„ 1930 ..	775	727	685	720	668	759	916	398	715	586	810	882
1930 1st Qtr.	831	733	670	730	671	802	972	415	700	586	822	932
„ 2nd „	782	741	701	739	671	768	944	396	711	586	814	906
„ 3rd „	756	733	695	716	671	745	909	392	728	586	814	875
„ 4th „	730	703	674	694	660	720	841	390	721	586	788	813
1931 1st Qtr.	690	622	646	657	660	679	807	385	703	586	735	781
„ 2nd „	689	622	630	657	639	677	760	426	684	586	714	740

Period.	Western Australia.—Index-Numbers.						Tasmania.—Index-Numbers.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 ..	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	649	..
„ 1921 ..	754	578	616	649	779	709	870	676	294	150	495	729	877	823
Years 1923–27	847	556	822	709	847	813	973	786	789	759	461	885	1,000*a*	965
Year 1926 ..	898	549	858	707	861	856	996	797	785	759	396	899	1,026	992
„ 1927 ..	922	541	894	713	870	876	966	787	770	743	424	878	1,030	998
„ 1928 ..	941	541	917	671	957	893	939	845	778	711	460	878	1,066	1,032
„ 1929 ..	955	543	917	675	985	906	932	831	781	733	520	873	1,073	1,037
„ 1930 ..	979	582	903	783	1,063	934	914	806	726	774	567	858	1,047	1,013
1930 1st Qtr.	1,001	562	905	786	1,012	949	923	809	764	780	559	865	1,090	1,052
„ 2nd „	993	579	905	786	1,039	945	912	809	740	782	560	858	1,067	1,032
„ 3rd „	993	593	901	779	1,101	947	911	804	707	773	571	854	1,035	1,003
„ 4th „	931	592	899	780	1,100	896	911	803	694	761	579	853	994	966
1931 1st Qtr.	924	593	870	789	1,043	888	915	785	710	768	584	852	954	928
„ 2nd „	898	627	862	786	1,042	870	923	783	710	737	594	855	918	894

(*a*) Base.

Food, Groceries and Housing Combined (4 and 5 rooms).—Index-Numbers—30 Towns; Weighted Average Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923-1927, as base (= 1,000).

Period.	N.S.W.—Index-Numbers.						Victoria.—Index-Numbers.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 ..	680	..	..	..	..	..	613	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	977	944	825	926	815	965	895	769	780	844	855	876
Years 1923–27	1,047	1,004	964	1,029	912	1,040	983	853	882	930	891	971
Year 1926 ..	1,070	1,036	1,003	1,046	963	1,064	1,008	876	909	976	896	997
„ 1927 ..	1,060	1,038	1,023	1,068	950	1,056	996	862	918	976	894	986
„ 1928 ..	1,064	1,043	1,027	1,087	952	1,061	993	862	904	962	894	983
„ 1929 ..	1,115	1,068	1,078	1,146	987	1,110	1,036	914	962	985	940	1,026
„ 1930 ..	1,059	998	1,021	1,050	969	1,052	948	861	884	900	909	940
1930 1st Qtr.	1,100	1,034	1,057	1,103	1,018	1,093	979	883	910	931	927	970
„ 2nd „	1,083	1,020	1,050	1,086	990	1,076	974	890	914	923	925	966
„ 3rd „	1,048	992	1,004	1,041	961	1,041	948	864	888	893	904	940
„ 4th „	1,007	948	971	968	930	1,000	888	809	826	851	879	881
1931 1st Qtr.	973	924	948	929	911	967	860	778	801	820	839	853
„ 2nd „	948	900	930	906	896	943	822	746	766	792	804	816

Period.	Queensland.—Index-Numbers.						South Australia.—Index-Numbers.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 ..	560	..	..	..	..	..	658	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	840	771	779	820	794	824	898	811	839	770	844	885
Years 1923–27	887	845	847	892	854	880	992	865	915	818	948	981
Year 1926 ..	934	901	911	934	901	929	1,003	874	966	848	980	994
„ 1927 ..	902	852	896	935	890	898	999	871	940	836	995	989
„ 1928 ..	901	833	858	942	841	892	1,003	854	925	838	990	992
„ 1929 ..	912	855	877	975	867	906	1,030	891	963	866	1,042	1,020
„ 1930 ..	819	804	832	879	803	821	929	810	911	804	961	922
1930 1st Qtr.	874	834	867	927	834	871	987	848	940	841	996	977
„ 2nd „	832	821	846	910	818	835	969	837	941	812	991	960
„ 3rd „	806	800	828	852	800	809	912	802	902	800	962	906
„ 4th „	765	761	785	827	761	768	850	752	862	764	893	845
1931 1st Qtr.	760	739	791	824	759	764	825	737	836	720	849	820
„ 2nd „	753	715	770	824	745	754	792	723	803	707	824	789

Period.	Western Australia.—Index-Numbers.						Tasmania.—Index-Numbers.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Av'ge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Av'ge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 ..	689	..	..	..	..	..	630	..	..	..	..	..	644	..
„ 1921 ..	916	928	898	907	942	918	971	858	819	696	871	911	924	907
Years 1923–27	973	958	1,004	957	1,018	973	1,008	933	951	937	891	977	1,000*a*	990
Year 1926 ..	992	961	1,032	975	1,031	990	1,027	948	964	950	892	994	1,024	1,015
„ 1927 ..	975	933	1,026	968	1,019	973	988	916	929	913	864	957	1,011	1,002
„ 1928 ..	1,013	949	1,038	967	1,047	1,007	956	912	926	880	860	935	1,014	1,004
„ 1929 ..	1,038	1,010	1,072	996	1,090	1,036	992	937	972	930	920	970	1,054	1,044
„ 1930 ..	968	941	992	968	1,058	967	939	891	904	880	890	919	978	970
1930 1st Qtr.	1,012	953	1,020	1,007	1,072	1,007	963	913	932	897	898	942	1,019	1,009
„ 2nd „	1,005	974	1,026	1,006	1,080	1,004	957	905	933	898	902	937	1,004	996
„ 3rd „	966	960	995	967	1,077	968	938	891	900	885	895	919	971	963
„ 4th „	888	875	927	891	1,001	890	895	853	851	839	865	878	919	912
1931 1st Qtr.	894	864	897	875	975	892	882	829	813	832	848	861	893	887
„ 2nd „	877	872	881	870	973	879	860	808	798	795	810	838	866	860

(*a*) Base.

Clothing.—Index-Numbers—30 Towns ; Weighted Average Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 as base (= 1,000).

Period.	N.S.W.—Index-Numbers.						Victoria.—Index-Numbers.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 ..	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,573	1,463	1,612	1,326
Years 1923–27	950	1,015	907	1,168	1,022	958	1,008	1,073	1,022	1,058	1,159	1,014
Year 1926 ..	947	1,003	887	1,166	1,057	953	979	1,075	985	1,029	1,136	987
,, 1927 ..	936	1,002	889	1,162	978	944	975	1,069	992	1,037	1,139	984
,, 1928 ..	978	984	878	1,167	1,022	979	991	1,099	1,013	1,022	1,121	998
,, 1929 ..	983	982	837	1,162	1,000	981	992	1,093	1,009	993	1,086	998
,, 1930 ..	931	1,012	801	1,106	957	937	964	1,023	1,027	949	1,080	970
1930 1st Qtr.	946	1,031	805	1,111	966	951	995	1,056	1,060	969	1,107	1,000
,, 2nd ,,	950	1,035	829	1,107	994	956	990	1,059	1,042	980	1,106	995
,, 3rd ,,	924	1,016	803	1,093	948	931	957	993	1,029	941	1,062	962
,, 4th ,,	906	964	767	1,114	921	910	916	982	978	907	1,044	921
1931 1st Qtr.	856	931	731	1,100	839	862	871	941	952	865	1,017	878
,, 2nd ,,	843	912	729	1,042	836	848	847	897	948	852	997	854

Period.	Queensland.—Index-Numbers.						South Australia.—Index-Numbers.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 ..	657	..	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..
,, 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568	1,519	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238
Years 1923–27	1,024	1,070	1,056	915	1,090	1,028	1,084	1,064	1,039	1,209	1,088	1,084
Year 1926 ..	1,009	1,054	1,063	876	1,104	1,014	1,086	1,037	1,022	1,219	1,108	1,083
,, 1927 ..	965	1,049	1,024	831	1,105	975	1,067	1,043	1,016	1,207	1,102	1,066
,, 1928 ..	945	1,066	1,011	847	1,096	960	1,089	1,065	1,012	1,201	1,096	1,086
,, 1929 ..	944	1,050	972	822	1,102	954	1,062	1,044	1,000	1,199	1,084	1,061
,, 1930 ..	910	1,052	934	826	1,066	923	960	1,094	923	1,174	1,037	965
1930 1st Qtr.	929	1,057	962	821	1,090	941	1,010	1,014	946	1,185	1,053	1,011
,, 2nd ,,	923	1,052	959	835	1,083	936	981	1,011	905	1,178	1,003	983
,, 3rd ,,	907	1,063	931	830	1,056	922	940	1,005	924	1,167	1,057	946
,, 4th ,,	880	1,036	884	816	1,038	893	911	987	916	1,165	1,033	919
1931 1st Qtr.	870	1,002	859	779	955	878	907	953	893	1,083	1,027	912
,, 2nd ,,	845	989	853	786	938	856	879	935	865	1,054	1,010	885

Period.	Western Australia.—Index-Numbers.						Tasmania.—Index-Numbers.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 ..	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..	754	..
,, 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525	1,405	1,504	1,513	1,246	1,290
Years 1923–27	1,019	1,136	972	1,046	1,010	1,031	1,175	1,110	1,052	1,033	1,217	1,146	1,000*a*	1,007
Year 1926 ..	1,003	1,133	956	1,016	987	1,015	1,149	1,082	1,026	1,023	1,223	1,122	986	993
,, 1927 ..	1,013	1,127	934	967	1,008	1,022	1,098	1,077	1,027	1,006	1,188	1,088	975	982
,, 1928 ..	1,027	1,130	969	974	1,019	1,035	1,095	1,109	1,058	1,025	1,208	1,098	997	1,002
,, 1929 ..	1,023	1,135	961	966	977	1,031	1,093	1,090	1,045	1,066	1,212	1,093	996	999
,, 1930 ..	1,002	1,117	938	988	972	1,012	1,044	1,138	1,020	1,072	1,206	1,076	951	958
1930 1st Qtr.	1,021	1,120	941	999	990	1,028	1,073	1,143	1,029	1,093	1,230	1,097	975	982
,, 2nd ,,	1,013	1,124	930	993	991	1,021	1,053	1,150	1,026	1,072	1,210	1,085	970	978
,, 3rd ,,	1,006	1,116	945	987	962	1,014	1,033	1,143	1,020	1,061	1,216	1,071	943	951
,, 4th ,,	969	1,109	935	971	947	982	1,015	1,117	1,005	1,063	1,170	1,051	914	922
1931 1st Qtr.	949	1,086	883	944	953	962	997	1,063	972	1,005	1,137	1,020	877	886
,, 2nd ,,	951	1,095	893	953	930	964	971	1,034	956	924	1,117	990	859	867

(*a*) Base.

Miscellaneous.—Index-Numbers—30 Towns ; Weighted Average Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 as base (= 1,000).

Period.	N.S.W.—Index-Numbers.						Victoria.—Index-Numbers.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 ..	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Years 1923-27	1,021	933	1,072	908	934	1,013	993	932	944	954	874	986
Year 1926 ..	1,020	928	1,074	905	926	1,011	991	933	945	949	868	985
„ 1927 ..	1,048	954	1,069	906	925	1,038	989	933	945	944	865	983
„ 1928 ..	1,048	953	1,055	900	928	1,037	991	932	945	942	861	984
„ 1929 ..	1,046	947	1,050	901	925	1,035	986	927	944	942	859	980
„ 1930 ..	1,040	935	1,041	909	924	1,029	973	922	935	938	853	967
1930 1st Qtr.	1,046	942	1,052	899	925	1,035	981	927	944	945	855	975
„ 2nd „	1,041	937	1,049	914	925	1,030	980	928	941	944	854	974
„ 3rd „	1,041	932	1,042	912	925	1,030	973	921	933	939	852	967
„ 4th „	1,030	927	1,023	912	921	1,019	957	912	922	922	851	952
1931 1st Qtr.	1,021	918	1,011	910	918	1,010	949	901	916	905	845	944
„ 2nd „	1,014	916	1,037	906	916	1,005	936	896	915	899	848	931

Period.	Queensland.—Index-Numbers.						South Australia.—Index-Numbers.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 ..	728	..	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009	988	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036
Years 1923-27	934	942	922	969	927	935	1,025	1,010	1,020	986	1,012	1,024
Year 1926 ..	928	951	915	959	919	930	1,026	1,013	1,019	981	1,021	1,025
„ 1927 ..	936	951	919	977	927	937	1,022	996	1,017	977	1,013	1,020
„ 1928 ..	936	949	917	972	927	936	1,027	996	1,016	990	1,005	1,024
„ 1929 ..	935	949	911	971	922	935	1,028	993	1,009	983	995	1,025
„ 1930 ..	931	943	906	972	912	931	1,019	991	989	973	970	1,016
1930 1st Qtr.	932	946	905	970	912	932	1,031	991	1,002	974	987	1,027
„ 2nd „	932	945	905	971	912	931	1,023	992	994	974	963	1,020
„ 3rd „	931	944	905	973	914	931	1,014	992	995	974	967	1,011
„ 4th „	930	937	910	975	910	930	1,009	987	965	971	963	1,005
1931 1st Qtr.	926	939	892	971	898	925	1,008	979	957	965	977	1,004
„ 2nd „	926	938	892	970	897	929	995	966	967	963	964	992

Period.	Western Australia.—Index-Numbers.						Tasmania.—Index-Numbers.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 ..	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	749	..
„ 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941	960	959	952	1,010	1,009
Years 1923-27	988	975	938	935	1,013	985	917	927	848	849	842	911	1,000*a*	993
Year 1926 ..	980	970	932	936	978	977	905	916	841	842	821	900	998	990
„ 1927 ..	978	972	927	937	981	976	899	918	837	857	828	897	1,008	1,000
„ 1928 ..	987	978	929	933	981	983	904	910	835	856	826	898	1,010	1,001
„ 1929 ..	987	969	930	931	1,011	984	904	908	834	855	829	898	1,007	998
„ 1930 ..	979	970	929	930	1,002	976	900	899	830	855	808	891	999	990
1930 1st Qtr.	980	975	928	935	1,017	978	905	899	829	854	811	894	1,005	996
„ 2nd „	979	969	927	934	1,018	977	905	902	828	855	809	895	1,002	993
„ 3rd „	980	969	929	934	992	977	903	901	827	854	805	894	999	990
„ 4th „	975	969	931	914	982	972	886	896	835	857	807	882	988	980
1931 1st Qtr.	972	968	916	903	978	969	874	893	848	850	811	875	981	973
„ 2nd „	969	968	907	895	979	966	876	886	849	849	804	874	973	965

(*a*) Base.

Total Household Expenditure.—Index-Numbers—30 Towns; Weighted Average Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period 1923-1927 as base (= 1,000).

Period.	N.S.W.—Index-Numbers.						Victoria.—Index-Numbers.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
Nov. 1914 ..	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
Years 1923–27	1,020	994	970	1,041	941	1,017	990	917	925	963	950	984
Year 1926 ..	1,033	1,010	988	1,050	978	1,030	998	931	933	984	946	992
„ 1927 ..	1,029	1,015	1,000	1,062	952	1,027	990	922	940	985	945	985
„ 1928 ..	1,042	1,014	997	1,074	964	1,038	992	929	936	973	941	987
„ 1929 ..	1,073	1,028	1,018	1,108	979	1,067	1,017	957	969	980	960	1,011
„ 1930 ..	1,026	991	973	1,039	959	1,022	956	909	926	917	939	951
1930 1st Qtr.	1,055	1,018	998	1,070	990	1,050	983	930	950	942	956	978
„ 2nd „	1,045	1,009	999	1,061	979	1,041	979	935	948	940	955	974
„ 3rd „	1,018	987	964	1,031	951	1,014	954	904	928	912	931	950
„ 4th „	987	948	933	992	927	982	906	866	877	876	912	903
1931 1st Qtr.	954	925	909	966	895	950	878	836	855	845	881	874
„ 2nd „	935	906	902	937	886	932	847	807	833	824	856	844

Period.	Queensland.—Index-Numbers.						South Australia.—Index-Numbers.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, S.A.
Nov. 1914 ..	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
„ 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025	994	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
Years 1923–27	927	914	908	910	921	923	1,019	936	961	936	991	1,012
Year 1926 ..	950	945	947	925	951	949	1,026	935	988	956	1,016	1,020
„ 1927 ..	922	914	929	918	946	923	1,018	932	970	945	1,023	1,012
„ 1928 ..	917	906	903	925	914	915	1,027	927	960	948	1,017	1,019
„ 1929 ..	923	916	904	939	931	922	1,037	943	980	963	1,043	1,030
„ 1930 ..	859	885	868	883	882	863	952	885	927	918	980	948
1930 1st Qtr.	897	904	895	910	906	898	1,000	910	952	943	1,008	994
„ 2nd „	870	895	882	903	895	875	981	904	942	924	989	976
„ 3rd „	851	885	865	867	878	856	936	881	923	914	984	933
„ 4th „	820	855	829	849	850	825	891	846	892	892	937	889
1931 1st Qtr.	814	834	824	839	828	817	875	828	870	846	912	873
„ 2nd „	804	816	810	840	815	807	847	813	845	831	891	846

Period.	Western Australia.—Index Numbers.						Tasmania.—Index-Numbers.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Avge. W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Avge, Tas.		
Nov. 1914 ..	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	687	..
„ 1921 ..	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	1,003	904	1,031	1,057	1,013	1,013
Years 1923–27	986	1,002	985	974	1,015	988	1,031	973	957	944	958	1,005	1,000*a*	994
Year 1926 ..	992	1,002	998	978	1,012	994	1,035	973	957	948	956	1,007	1,011	1,006
„ 1927 ..	984	984	988	963	1,010	985	998	953	936	925	932	977	1,002	997
„ 1928 ..	1,012	995	1,003	963	1,029	1,009	980	957	941	909	934	966	1,009	1,003
„ 1929 ..	1,026	1,032	1,022	978	1,051	1,026	1,000	967	966	948	972	986	1,033	1,026
„ 1930 ..	977	986	969	966	1,029	979	956	949	918	920	949	951	975	971
1930 1st Qtr.	1,008	995	986	993	1,044	1,007	979	963	937	935	960	970	1,006	1,001
„ 2nd „	1,002	1,008	987	991	1,049	1,003	970	961	936	930	957	964	996	991
„ 3rd „	977	998	972	966	1,036	980	954	951	916	920	954	950	969	965
„ 4th „	922	945	929	913	985	925	921	921	884	894	926	918	929	926
1931 1st Qtr.	920	933	897	896	971	921	907	894	856	875	908	900	905	901
„ 2nd „	910	940	888	893	964	913	888	873	843	834	880	879	882	880

(*a*) Base.

§ 4. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

1. **General.**—To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding chapter, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November 1913. This investigation was repeated in November 1914 and again in November 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November 1923 the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November each year will relate, therefore, to 200 towns. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (Section IV., pages 26 to 33). The results of succeeding investigations have appeared in the Labour Bulletins and Reports of this Bureau.

2. **Results—1928 to 1930.**—The results of the investigation in November 1930 are set out in the tables on the following pages, compared with the particulars recorded during the previous two years. Aggregate expenditure on food and groceries separately is shown in the form of index-numbers for each year in column A. In columns B and C the corresponding aggregate expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of 4-rooms, and food, groceries, and rent of 5-rooms are shown for each year for each town. The index-number 1,535 (see page 35), represents the weighted average expenditure in 200 towns on food, groceries, and rent of 5-roomed houses; and 1,400 represents the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of 4-roomed houses in November 1930. Similarly, in column A, the index-number 932 represents the relative weighted average expenditure on food and groceries only for November 1930. The figures given in the table are comparable throughout. Thus, taking the average weighted expenditure for the 200 towns on food, groceries, and rent of 5-roomed houses as equal to 1,535, the expenditure on the same items in Melbourne is 1,518; while if 4-roomed houses were substituted for 5-roomed the expenditure in Melbourne would be represented by 1,380, compared with an expenditure of 1,400 on the average for 200 towns.

The change made in Report No. 13 in the basis on which the index-numbers were computed is continued in this issue. Previously the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of 5-roomed houses for the 150 towns in each year was taken as base. In the tables on the following pages the same base is taken as in the tables referring to 30 towns and 6 capital cities, i.e., the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and housing (all houses) in the 6 capital cities in 1911 is made equal to 1,000.

Index-Numbers—Cost of Food, Groceries, and Housing in 200 Towns for November, 1928, 1929, and 1930, compared with the Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent for all houses in the Six Capital Cities in 1911 as base (= 1,000).

State and Town.	1928. November.			1929. November.			1930. November.		
	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.
New South Wales—	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Sydney	1,072	1,630	1,776	1,186	1,751	1,897	980	1,537	1,682
Newcastle	1,058	1,542	1,767	1,159	1,649	1,852	956	1,453	1,602
Broken Hill	1,239	1,606	1,724	1,406	1,772	1,892	1,169	1,551	1,671
Goulburn	1,082	1,648	1,778	1,200	1,801	1,939	944	1,491	1,582
Bathurst	1,019	1,401	1,505	1,140	1,519	1,616	930	1,339	1,446
Albury	1,063	1,754	1,914	1,161	1,822	1,962	930	1,536	1,653
Armidale	1,031	1,513	1,590	1,127	1,603	1,701	937	1,375	1,463
Ballina	1,113	1,607	1,733	1,191	1,684	1,809	1,000	1,395	1,527
Bega	1,097	1,419	1,530	1,181	1,506	1,622	957	1,313	1,431
Berry	1,090	1,445	1,550	1,175	1,504	1,635	973	1,302	1,394
Blackheath	1,230	1,675	1,800	1,272	1,733	1,812	1,036	1,463	1,582
Bourke	1,287	1,550	1,613	1,374	1,611	1,684	1,089	1,418	1,484
Bowral	1,090	1,723	1,814	1,219	1,794	1,956	991	1,478	1,636
Casino	1,086	1,532	1,771	1,164	1,690	1,836	916	1,443	1,574
Cessnock	1,075	1,568	1,634	1,164	1,503	1,576	935	1,307	1,420
Cobar	1,231	1,363	1,428	1,312	1,510	1,549	1,119	1,333	1,386
Cooma	1,133	1,463	1,672	1,256	1,599	1,816	1,053	1,382	1,571
Coonamble	1,121	1,485	1,611	1,250	1,614	1,753	1,033	1,388	1,523
Cootamundra ..	1,049	1,548	1,782	1,166	1,712	1,866	942	1,446	1,615
Corrimal	1,096	1,539	1,671	1,159	1,613	1,751	974	1,459	1,510
Cowra	1,081	1,610	1,687	1,189	1,680	1,817	899	1,347	1,504
Cronulla	1,128	1,644	1,817	1,275	1,827	1,998	1,060	1,601	1,740
Deniliquin	1,098	1,480	1,625	1,208	1,583	1,734	1,053	1,516	1,667
Dubbo	1,139	1,760	1,834	1,196	1,854	1,941	913	1,604	1,673
Forbes	1,055	1,601	1,800	1,196	1,781	1,990	918	1,512	1,632
Gilgandra	1,184	1,477	1,546	1,268	1,643	1,692	979	1,321	1,436
Glen Innes	1,007	1,414	1,575	1,112	1,546	1,697	881	1,302	1,427
Grafton	993	1,467	1,649	1,060	1,546	1,705	876	1,404	1,574
Grenfell	1,065	1,473	1,674	1,173	1,568	1,766	961	1,395	1,553
Griffith	1,161	2,083	2,313	1,293	2,214	2,444	1,083	2,021	2,251
Gulgong	1,121	1,417	1,490	1,207	1,512	1,622	982	1,344	1,434
Gunnedah	1,046	1,445	1,593	1,131	1,567	1,684	897	1,349	1,401
Hay	1,164	1,545	1,765	1,273	1,677	1,871	1,026	1,420	1,618
Inverell	1,108	1,569	1,645	1,155	1,682	1,737	930	1,445	1,522
Junee	1,095	1,770	1,806	1,205	1,869	1,896	963	1,587	1,687
Katoomba	1,160	1,752	1,904	1,250	1,848	1,980	1,048	1,691	1,778
Kempsey	1,068	1,539	1,639	1,037	1,517	1,607	837	1,226	1,403
Kiama	1,152	1,514	1,614	1,211	1,612	1,724	1,027	1,373	1,601
Kurri Kurri	1,108	1,497	1,588	1,163	1,510	1,603	978	1,372	1,442
Leeton	1,190	1,908	1,980	1,284	2,003	2,060	1,018	1,724	1,788
Lismore	1,085	1,604	1,766	1,111	1,676	1,837	959	1,485	1,691
Lithgow	1,094	1,531	1,610	1,196	1,643	1,716	981	1,412	1,506
Maitland	1,026	1,450	1,567	1,142	1,504	1,609	919	1,331	1,441
Moree	1,149	1,617	1,872	1,243	1,712	1,973	1,004	1,596	1,793
Moss Vale	1,086	1,652	1,751	1,191	1,787	1,868	959	1,439	1,584
Mudgee	1,108	1,626	1,720	1,196	1,701	1,802	898	1,424	1,490
Narrabri	1,089	1,519	1,666	1,205	1,658	1,799	1,009	1,486	1,607
Narrandera	1,122	1,677	1,908	1,205	1,730	1,961	1,053	1,580	1,744
Nowra	1,135	1,586	1,661	1,198	1,659	1,761	1,019	1,446	1,571
Orange	1,067	1,643	1,771	1,147	1,700	1,873	960	1,503	1,656
Parkes	1,077	1,630	1,758	1,213	1,761	1,912	916	1,436	1,549
Penrith	1,098	1,545	1,624	1,145	1,592	1,698	926	1,334	1,456
Port Kembla ..	1,137	1,699	1,821	1,216	1,777	1,920	1,023	1,549	1,689
Portland	1,112	1,550	1,658	1,234	1,641	1,763	1,024	1,418	1,484
Queanbeyan ..	1,141	1,600	1,700	1,235	1,690	1,781	986	1,432	1,525

Index-Numbers—Cost of Food, Groceries, and Housing in 200 Towns, etc.—*continued.*

State and Town.	1928. November.			1929. November.			1930. November.		
	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.
New South Wales – *contd.*	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Quirindi	1,075	1,420	1,599	1,169	1,493	1,686	1,046	1,352	1,596
Richmond	1,034	1,478	1,626	1,140	1,535	1,732	944	1,372	1,519
Scone	1,050	1,488	1,636	1,077	1,537	1,675	941	1,415	1,533
Singleton	1,096	1,508	1,611	1,148	1,543	1,684	976	1,419	1,508
Tamworth	1,006	1,430	1,614	1,109	1,537	1,725	889	1,336	1,474
Taree	1,103	1,621	1,772	1,149	1,682	1,833	960	1,509	1,625
Temora	1,120	1,664	1,827	1,222	1,782	1,913	1,005	1,565	1,663
Tenterfield	1,132	1,548	1,581	1,199	1,642	1,673	954	1,408	1,494
Tumut	1,046	1,526	1,671	1,136	1,639	1,778	938	1,465	1,629
Ulmarra	1,045	1,407	1,538	1,126	1,508	1,653	973	1,427	1,565
Wagga Wagga ..	1,056	1,786	1,794	1,182	1,911	1,923	937	1,627	1,792
Walcha	1,048	1,463	1,618	1,198	1,666	1,758	962	1,302	1,488
Wellington	1,058	1,415	1,577	1,237	1,598	1,704	945	1,274	1,379
Weston	1,077	1,538	1,582	1,157	1,618	1,684	957	1,333	1,425
Windsor	1,077	1,558	1,703	1,142	1,622	1,767	941	1,501	1,583
Wollongong	1,117	1,665	1,698	1,173	1,724	1,785	985	1,508	1,640
Wyalong	1,135	1,530	1,595	1,236	1,631	1,697	997	1,359	1,425
Yass	1,127	1,593	1,749	1,247	1,765	1,896	1,032	1,503	1,602
Young	1,056	1,632	1,701	1,204	1,769	1,862	1,008	1,556	1,666
Weighted Average for State (74 Towns) ..	1,078	1,613	1,757	1,187	1,727	1,871	978	1,513	1,652
Victoria—									
Melbourne	968	1,518	1,684	1,084	1,647	1,795	895	1,380	1,518
Ballarat	1,002	1,297	1,491	1,127	1,440	1,624	923	1,213	1,407
Bendigo	1,002	1,375	1,507	1,130	1,503	1,651	908	1,241	1,383
Geelong	984	1,495	1,610	1,099	1,572	1,691	903	1,305	1,448
Warrnambool ..	961	1,377	1,538	1,103	1,537	1,698	928	1,363	1,526
Ararat	1,088	1,494	1,614	1,161	1,551	1,695	969	1,360	1,535
Bacchus Marsh ..	1,033	1,494	1,573	1,153	1,613	1,686	980	1,421	1,559
Bairnsdale	1,049	1,427	1,600	1,167	1,528	1,732	984	1,350	1,544
Beechworth	1,047	1,333	1,382	1,178	1,481	1,517	990	1,287	1,352
Benalla	1,057	1,433	1,504	1,151	1,546	1,592	935	1,305	1,385
Camperdown ..	1,056	1,411	1,575	1,135	1,549	1,705	1,017	1,435	1,593
Casterton	1,032	1,438	1,541	1,113	1,508	1,639	936	1,265	1,462
Castlemaine	1,002	1,252	1,425	1,108	1,397	1,527	941	1,170	1,342
Colac	1,009	1,568	1,696	1,102	1,683	1,771	912	1,481	1,576
Creswick	1,006	1,131	1,190	1,115	1,234	1,293	930	1,128	1,141
Daylesford	1,034	1,363	1,429	1,076	1,372	1,438	938	1,218	1,279
Dunolly	1,023	1,194	1,234	1,118	1,272	1,361	920	1,081	1,150
Echuca	1,017	1,433	1,593	1,113	1,548	1,715	934	1,294	1,460
Euroa	1,083	1,427	1,590	1,156	1,504	1,666	1,023	1,354	1,508
Hamilton	1,033	1,455	1,646	1,162	1,633	1,774	1,038	1,511	1,596
Healesville	1,039	1,377	1,503	1,173	1,504	1,594	942	1,245	1,327
Horsham	1,117	1,644	1,832	1,218	1,731	1,885	948	1,395	1,611
Kerang	1,001	1,582	1,714	1,155	1,748	1,879	969	1,495	1,627
Korolt	1,008	1,298	1,368	1,102	1,382	1,448	937	1,213	1,279
Korumburra	1,038	1,476	1,580	1,153	1,614	1,679	899	1,376	1,508
Kyneton	1,019	1,387	1,468	1,122	1,458	1,583	947	1,341	1,447
Lilydale	1,025	1,404	1,563	1,179	1,567	1,732	970	1,383	1,484
Maffra	981	1,559	1,639	1,106	1,671	1,763	959	1,520	1,670
Maldon	1,040	1,185	1,238	1,124	1,279	1,325	961	1,093	1,145
Maryborough ..	1,055	1,350	1,472	1,160	1,524	1,623	921	1,264	1,359
Mildura	1,106	1,698	1,873	1,217	1,843	2,000	1,000	1,584	1,804
Morwell	1,045	1,554	1,685	1,115	1,628	1,723	964	1,455	1,567
Nhill	1,089	1,582	1,697	1,248	1,748	1,906	971	1,366	1,557
Orbost	1,088	1,494	1,733	1,182	1,560	1,757	989	1,371	1,575
Portland	1,047	1,376	1,474	1,162	1,475	1,656	967	1,305	1,434

Index-Numbers—Cost of Food, Groceries, and Housing in 200 Towns, etc.—*continued.*

State and Town.	1928. November.			1929. November.			1930. November.		
	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.	Food and Groceries only.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4-Roomed Houses.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-Roomed Houses.
Victoria—*continued.*	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Port Fairy	1,035	1,347	1,424	1,109	1,409	1,507	948	1,211	1,333
St. Arnaud	1,107	1,462	1,699	1,206	1,535	1,812	1,038	1,357	1,538
Sale	984	1,342	1,545	1,110	1,450	1,661	960	1,266	1,507
Seymour	1,105	1,433	1,532	1,186	1,581	1,673	969	1,371	1,479
Shepparton	1,022	1,582	1,756	1,172	1,785	1,874	960	1,502	1,659
Stawell	1,132	1,459	1,602	1,232	1,550	1,721	993	1,305	1,414
Swan Hill	1,074	1,732	1,837	1,139	1,819	1,929	937	1,521	1,792
Terang	1,023	1,417	1,536	1,137	1,480	1,683	984	1,340	1,537
Traralgon	1,011	1,450	1,597	1,082	1,489	1,643	931	1,322	1,483
Wangaratta	1,087	1,511	1,630	1,195	1,636	1,832	967	1,461	1,592
Warracknabeal	1,067	1,587	1,743	1,210	1,676	1,838	947	1,332	1,495
Warragul	994	1,496	1,672	1,075	1,573	1,746	922	1,428	1,633
Wonthaggi	1,028	1,404	1,568	1,088	1,468	1,614	922	1,323	1,442
Weighted Average for State (48 Towns)	981	1,497	1,658	1,096	1,623	1,770	905	1,366	1,507
Queensland—									
Brisbane	997	1,392	1,528	1,010	1,409	1,542	818	1,164	1,281
Toowoomba	948	1,252	1,419	1,010	1,310	1,475	835	1,112	1,297
Rockhampton	1,046	1,331	1,449	1,074	1,355	1,474	886	1,195	1,310
Charters Towers	1,163	1,510	1,598	1,122	1,521	1,561	945	1,311	1,360
Warwick	998	1,344	1,409	1,042	1,392	1,452	856	1,185	1,262
Ayr	1,183	1,643	1,775	1,197	1,688	1,771	996	1,404	1,522
Barcaldine	1,253	1,582	1,678	1,265	1,669	1,728	1,062	1,447	1,569
Bowen	1,136	1,531	1,697	1,197	1,592	1,731	1,002	1,355	1,490
Bundaberg	1,030	1,329	1,441	1,011	1,384	1,478	877	1,203	1,298
Cairns	1,115	1,656	1,773	1,192	1,766	1,904	947	1,483	1,698
Charleville	1,139	1,578	1,812	1,181	1,604	1,839	1,005	1,487	1,742
Chillagoe	1,236	1,499	1,552	1,279	1,542	1,595	1,168	1,379	1,431
Cloncurry	1,253	1,648	1,779	1,310	1,705	1,836	1,141	1,540	1,658
Cooktown	1,193	1,286	1,351	1,249	1,446	1,499	1,169	1,367	1,452
Cunnamulla	1,186	1,647	1,706	1,251	1,711	1,803	1,054	1,501	1,580
Dalby	1,009	1,362	1,454	1,099	1,415	1,570	872	1,227	1,464
Gayndah	1,142	1,438	1,537	1,161	1,477	1,556	960	1,262	1,361
Gladstone	1,052	1,341	1,440	1,105	1,414	1,499	948	1,245	1,369
Goondiwindi	1,094	1,501	1,574	1,187	1,608	1,648	990	1,385	1,425
Gympie	1,074	1,412	1,528	1,100	1,464	1,525	886	1,234	1,362
Hughenden	1,239	1,719	1,844	1,287	1,748	1,868	1,082	1,516	1,595
Innisfail	1,255	1,848	2,054	1,328	1,940	2,118	1,017	1,544	1,708
Ipswich	1,069	1,394	1,524	1,027	1,357	1,457	855	1,159	1,246
Longreach	1,228	1,561	1,762	1,266	1,575	1,776	1,066	1,371	1,607
Mackay	1,103	1,637	1,730	1,147	1,707	1,851	956	1,412	1,547
Maryborough	1,050	1,319	1,461	1,106	1,418	1,619	876	1,238	1,428
Mount Morgan	1,111	1,243	1,295	1,189	1,321	1,387	970	1,102	1,168
Nambour	1,098	1,470	1,572	1,120	1,485	1,610	923	1,289	1,406
Roma	1,091	1,459	1,610	1,145	1,531	1,705	941	1,321	1,461
Stanthorpe	1,036	1,395	1,517	1,135	1,531	1,595	935	1,369	1,461
Townsville	1,191	1,677	1,765	1,158	1,631	1,730	917	1,372	1,456
Winton	1,265	1,725	1,822	1,286	1,746	1,834	1,064	1,380	1,498
Weighted Average for State (32 Towns)	1,040	1,415	1,542	1,057	1,439	1,564	863	1,211	1,330
South Australia—									
Adelaide	997	1,509	1,673	1,124	1,619	1,740	894	1,323	1,443
Kadina, etc.	1,098	1,326	1,422	1,235	1,432	1,475	998	1,186	1,226
Port Pirie	1,073	1,452	1,564	1,198	1,569	1,675	986	1,361	1,490
Mount Gambier	1,023	1,279	1,381	1,102	1,360	1,465	902	1,160	1,281
Peterborough	1,161	1,572	1,656	1,258	1,664	1,780	977	1,389	1,461
Freeling	1,063	1,392	1,507	1,112	1,441	1,556	892	1,207	1,319
Gawler	1,040	1,364	1,471	1,134	1,428	1,520	882	1,177	1,264
Kapunda	1,007	1,204	1,277	1,172	1,418	1,435	937	1,147	1,182
Kooringa	1,060	1,389	1,455	1,164	1,493	1,559	959	1,275	1,354
Millicent	965	1,340	1,402	1,052	1,477	1,559	875	1,279	1,358

Index-Numbers—Cost of Food, Groceries, and Housing in 200 Towns, etc.—*continued.*

State and Town.	1928. November.			1929. November.			1930. November.		
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South Australia—*continued.*	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Murray Bridge ..	1,036	1,456	1,560	1,128	1,506	1,613	899	1,250	1,340
Port Augusta ..	1,243	1,630	1,710	1,323	1,710	1,790	1,086	1,503	1,583
Quorn	1,060	1,391	1,445	1,287	1,561	1,654	1,005	1,294	1,378
Victor Harbour ..	1,034	1,561	1,758	1,153	1,734	1,898	925	1,479	1,626
Renmark	1,207	1,657	1,800	1,287	1,780	1,923	1,116	1,577	1,752
Weighted Average for State (15 Towns) ..	1,011	1,492	1,645	1,136	1,601	1,717	907	1,317	1,431
Western Australia—									
Perth and Fremantle ..	1,126	1,593	1,718	1,095	1,567	1,721	902	1,363	1,502
Kalgoorlie and Boulder	1,271	1,582	1,652	1,279	1,580	1,657	1,080	1,398	1,493
Northam	1,196	1,642	1,795	1,186	1,619	1,803	987	1,434	1,571
Bunbury	1,201	1,541	1,665	1,229	1,566	1,677	995	1,416	1,502
Geraldton	1,132	1,659	1,839	1,198	1,678	1,881	969	1,541	1,700
Albany	1,282	1,611	1,693	1,195	1,513	1,616	983	1,337	1,409
Beverley	1,199	1,489	1,548	1,187	1,483	1,549	987	1,307	1,382
Bridgetown	1,272	1,622	1,667	1,266	1,649	1,693	1,072	1,427	1,516
Broome	1,390	1,926	2,015	1,456	1,932	2,114	1,325	1,801	1,983
Carnarvon	1,321	1,795	1,963	1,347	1,808	1,956	1,188	1,683	1,774
Collie	1,244	1,704	1,764	1,234	1,712	1,817	999	1,462	1,568
Greenbushes	1,266	1,477	1,529	1,234	1,477	1,550	1,046	1,250	1,342
Katanning	1,154	1,502	1,614	1,173	1,565	1,745	929	1,323	1,494
Leonora and Gwalia ..	1,369	1,566	1,632	1,412	1,609	1,675	1,247	1,444	1,510
Meekatharra ..	1,367	1,630	1,715	1,378	1,642	1,734	1,229	1,466	1,624
Narrogin	1,185	1,759	1,843	1,173	1,711	1,826	943	1,491	1,601
Wagin	1,182	1,544	1,636	1,124	1,535	1,606	1,007	1,434	1,464
York	1,124	1,460	1,562	1,130	1,466	1,568	940	1,275	1,377
Weighted Average for State (18 Towns) ..	1,155	1,596	1,713	1,132	1,576	1,719	937	1,378	1,508
Tasmania—									
Hobart	1,016	1,487	1,658	1,096	1,573	1,712	932	1,390	1,557
Launceston	982	1,386	1,573	1,087	1,492	1,692	911	1,308	1,474
Burnie	1,047	1,496	1,596	1,163	1,586	1,731	994	1,355	1,489
Devonport	1,016	1,430	1,460	1,116	1,565	1,603	935	1,379	1,402
Queenstown	1,130	1,394	1,407	1,215	1,527	1,557	1,068	1,387	1,444
Beaconsfield	989	1,094	1,120	1,052	1,144	1,183	919	997	1,050
Campbelltown ..	975	1,163	1,212	1,079	1,266	1,315	971	1,183	1,238
Deloraine	953	1,295	1,348	1,019	1,393	1,440	881	1,213	1,276
Franklin	1,024	1,235	1,288	1,118	1,328	1,381	950	1,187	1,239
New Norfolk ..	995	1,317	1,403	1,067	1,382	1,461	923	1,292	1,318
Scottsdale	980	1,265	1,379	1,084	1,374	1,466	913	1,209	1,286
Ulverstone	1,000	1,315	1,421	1,080	1,409	1,511	883	1,217	1,348
Zeehan	1,189	1,387	1,430	1,293	1,490	1,523	1,103	1,301	1,334
Weighted Average for State (13 Towns) ..	1,013	1,434	1,583	1,102	1,529	1,666	935	1,349	1,492
Weighted Average for Australia (200 Towns)	**1,040**	**1,536**	**1,683**	**1,133**	**1,634**	**1,773**	**932**	**1,400**	**1,535**

By deducting the index-number in column A from those in columns B and C, the relative aggregate expenditure on housing is ascertained. Thus, for November, 1930, the index-number for food and groceries in Melbourne

(column A) is 895. Subtracting this from 1,380 (column B) gives a difference of 485, which is the relative cost of house rent for houses of 4 rooms, and from 1518 (column C) gives a difference of 623, which is the relative cost of house rent for houses of 5 rooms. The relative cost of housing can be ascertained similarly for each of the towns included.

3. **Comparison of Capitals and other Towns.**—Three sets of index-numbers for food and rent have been given in the preceding pages, for the six capitals, for the thirty towns. and for the 200 towns. The first two are based on monthly prices of food and quarterly rents, and the third on prices and rents in the month of November. The three series, reduced to a common base (1913 = 1,000) are given in the table below. It will be seen that since 1913 food prices have increased slightly more in the capitals than in the larger groups of towns, but the increase in rents has been substantially greater outside the capitals than in them.

The index-numbers for November 1921 to 1930, computed from the three sets of data mentioned above with 1913 as base (= 1,000), are shown in the following table :—

Retail Prices Index-Numbers—Australia, 1921 to 1930.

Particulars.	1913.	1921.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.								
All Towns	1,000	1,578	1,683	1,675	1,691	1,625	1,770	1,455
Five Towns in each State ..	1,000	1,577	1,679	1,670	1,690	1,618	1,769	1,454
Capital Cities only ..	1,000	1,588	1,689	1,683	1,705	1,627	1,781	1,463
RENT OF 5-ROOMED HOUSES.								
All Towns	1,000	1,268	1,526	1,571	1,586	1,641	1,635	1,541
Five Towns in each State ..	1,000	1,271	1,509	1,554	1,570	1,632	1,622	1,516
Capital Cities only ..	1,000	1,261	1,455	1,496	1,507	1,571	1,562	1,453
FOOD, GROCERIES, AND RENT.								
All Towns	1,000	1,461	1,623	1,636	1,651	1,632	1,719	1,488
Five Towns in each State ..	1,000	1,458	1,613	1,625	1,643	1,623	1,712	1,478
Capital Cities only ..	1,000	1,455	1,594	1,607	1,624	1,604	1,692	1,459

The figures in the vertical columns show merely the increase or decrease in cost in November of each year compared with November 1913 for "All Towns," "Five Towns in each State," and "Capital Cities only" respectively.

§ 5. International Comparison of Price Index-Numbers.

1. **Wholesale Prices—Australia and other Countries.**—The following table gives index-numbers of wholesale prices for the years 1913 to 1931 in Australia and other countries, the prices for the year 1913, the year before the war, being taken as base (= 100). These figures are obtained chiefly from the "Monthly Bulletin of Statistics" published by the League of Nations. It must be understood that the figures do not show the relative prices in the various countries, but the fluctuations in prices in each country separately.

Index-Numbers, Wholesale Prices, Various Countries 1913 to 1931 (Prices in 1913 as Base = 100).

Period.	United Kingdom.			Austria.	British India (Calcutta).	China (Shanghai).	Czecho-Slovakia.	Denmark.	Dutch East Indies.	Egypt. (Cairo).	France.	Finland.	Germany.
	Board of Trade.	"Statist."	"Economist."	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	"Finansti dende."	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.
Average.								[e]					
8 ..	100	100	100	...	..	c100	..	100	100	..	100	100	100
4 ..	..	100	99	a100	100	..	d100	134	..	100	102	..	106
0 ..	307	291	283	..	201	152	..	341	..	318	509	1,183	1,486
5 ..	159	161	154	b136	b159	159	1,008	f 210	166	152	550	1,129	g142
6 ..	148	150	143	123	148	164	954	163	159	132	703	b142	133
7 ..	142	144	138	133	148	170	979	153	154	121	617	145	138
8 ..	140	142	135	130	145	161	977	153	149	120	620	145	140
9 ..	137	135	127	130	141	164	919	150	148	116	611	139	137
0 ..	120	114	107	117	118	180	b118	130	134	103	536	128	125
0 IX. ..	116	107	101	115	111	188	113	126	129	104	524	126	123
1 I. ..	107	101	91	105	93	188	109	118	119	100	484	122	115
II. ..	106	101	92	107	99	..	109	117	115	100	482	122	114
III. ..	106	101	91	107	100	..	111	116	111	105	482	122	114
IV. ..	106	99	90	108	98	..	110	115	108	100	484	121	114
V. ..	104	97	88	107	97	..	109	113	104	97	470	120	113

Period.	Italy.	Japan.	Nether-lands.	Norway.	Poland.	Spain.	Sweden.	Switzer-land.	United States.	Australia.	Canada.	New Zea-land.	South Africa.
	Consiglio Prov. dell Economia di Milano.	Bank of Japan.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.	Official.	Official.	Official.	Official.
Average.								[j]					
..	100	100	100	100	..	100	100	..	100	100	100	100	100
..	..	96	109	..	i100	101	..	100	98	106	102	104	97
..	..	259	292	..	..	221	359	..	221	228	244	207	223
..	h646	202	155	253	125	188	161	162	148	170	160	161	128
..	654	179	145	198	g181	181	149	145	143	168	156	154	123
..	527	170	148	167	119	172	146	142	137	167	153	146	124
..	491	171	149	161	120	167	148	145	140	165	151	147	120
..	481	166	142	153	113	171	140	141	138	166	149	147	116
..	411	137	117	143	98	172	122	127	124	147	136	143	103
IX. ..	398	130	112	141	94	174	119	123	121	141	129	144	100
I. ..	362	120	105	135	85	173	115	115	110	134	120	140	102
II. ..	358	119	104	133	85	175	114	115	108	133	119	137	..
III. ..	356	120	103	131	86	174	113	114	107	134	117	136	..
IV. ..	353	119	102	130	88	172	112	112	105	133	116	134	99
V. ..	347	116	102	128	88	169	111	111	102	133	114	133	..

a June, 1914. b Gold index. c February. d July. e End of year. f Official since year 1925.
g New series. h Average of eight months. i January. j Until end of 1925 "Lorenz."

2. Retail Prices—Australia and other Countries.—The following tables give index-numbers of retail prices, (i) cost of living, including articles other than food, and (ii) foodstuffs only for the month of July in each year from 1914 to 1930, and quarterly for 1930 and 1931, the prices for July, 1914 being taken as base (= 100). It must be understood, however, that the figures which have been obtained chiefly from the "Monthly Bulletin of Statistics," published by the League of Nations, show merely the fluctuations in prices in each country, and are not comparable horizontally.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in various Countries for the Month of July 1914 to 1930, and quarterly for 1930 and 1931, with Prices in July 1914 as Base (= 100).

(i) COST OF LIVING.

Period.	United Kingdom.	Austria.	Belgium.	Bulgaria.	Denmark.	Finland.	France.	Germany.	Italy.	Luxemburg.
No. of Towns and Localities.	630	Vienna.	59	12	100	21	Paris.	72	Milan.	L'x'm-burg.
July 1914 ..	100	100	..	*c* 100	100	100	*e*100	100	100	100
„ 1920 ..	255	5,100	..	1,858	262	*d*231	341	1,065	441	..
„ 1921 ..	222	9,972	100	1,919	237	1,214	307	1,250	494	383
„ 1926 ..	170	*b*103	174	2,886	184	*a*154	485	*g*142	649	686
„ 1927 ..	164	103	204	2,788	176	157	525	150	548	*a*176
„ 1928 ..	165	103	205	2,911	176	161	*a*105	153	*f*143	113
„ 1929 ..	163	112	216	*a*123	173	160	113	154	148	112
„ 1930 ..	157	112	227	98	165	147	116	149	145	127
1st Quarter, 1930	161	112	232	112	170	152	115	150	148	128
2nd „ 1930	155	112	225	101	167	146	116	147	145	126
3rd „ 1930	157	112	229	95	165	147	120	148	144	127
4th „ 1930	155	109	227	89	162	143	121	144	142	125
1st „ 1931	150	105	213	84	159	139	120	139	134	117

	Norway.	Poland.	Sweden.	Switzerland.	British India.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States.	Australia.	New Zealand.
No. of Towns and Localities.	31	Warsaw.	49	34	Bombay.	9	60	Whole Country.	30	25
July 1914 ..	100	*h* 100	100	*c* 100	100	*c* 100	100	100	100	*k* 100
„ 1920 ..	307	*i*11,173	270	224	190	179	200	205	..	182
„ 1921 ..	294	25,709	236	200	177	162	165	163	147	178
„ 1926 ..	220	178	172	162	157	131	157	166	*j*146	163
„ 1927 ..	203	115	169	160	156	131	155	162	145	161
„ 1928 ..	193	123	173	161	147	131	155	161	146	161
„ 1929 ..	180	123	169	161	148	131	156	162	149	161
„ 1930 ..	175	119	164	158	139	128	156	152	140	157
1st Quarter, 1930	177	119	167	160	144	129	160	159	146	159
2nd „ 1930	175	116	165	158	140	129	157	156	144	158
3rd „ 1930	175	117	164	159	137	127	155	152	140	157
4th „ 1930	173	118	163	157	126	126	152	150	135	155
1st „ 1931	170	109	161	155	114	125	147	143	131	150

NOTE.—With the following exceptions the index-numbers in the above table, are based on the cost of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items:—Belgium, exclusive of housing; Switzerland and British India, exclusive of miscellaneous items; Luxemburg, exclusive of housing and miscellaneous. For footnotes, see next page.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries for the month of July 1914 to 1930 and monthly for 1931, with Prices in July 1914 as Base (=100)—*continued.*

(ii) PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS.

Period.	United Kingdom.	Austria.	Belgium.	Czecho-Slovakia.	Denmark.	Finland.	France.	Germany.	Netherlands.
No. of Towns and Localities.	630	Vienna.	59	Whole Country.	100	21	Paris.	72	10
				l					*c*
1914—July	100	100	..	100	100	100	100	100	*m*
1920 „	262	..	..	..	253	1,013	373	1,252	..
1921 „	226	*i*57,900	100	1,303	236	1,323	306	1,491	..
1926 „	161	*b*115	185	876	159	*a*144	574	*g*145	91
1927 „	156	122	210	962	153	144	557	157	89
1928 „	156	119	204	943	153	151	*a*111	154	91
1929 „	153	123	212	925	149	146	123	156	90
1930 „	144	119	206	*a*130	137	126	122	146	83
1931 I.	136	109	195	117	127	117	132	134	78
II.	134	106	187	115	..	115	132	131	77
III.	129	105	183	114	..	115	131	130	75
IV.	129	104	180	114	123	114	130	129	74
V.	127	104	177	115	..	111	129	130	74

Period.	Italy.	Norway.	Poland.	Sweden.	Switzerland.	British India.	South Africa.	Canada.	United States.	Australia.	New Zealand.	Spain.
No. of Towns and Localities.	Milan.	31	Warsaw.	49	33	Bombay.	9	60	51	30	25	Madrid.
			h									*e*
1914—July ..	100	100	100	100	*n*100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1920 „ ..	445	319	..	297	..	..	197	224	215	194	167	190
1921 „ ..	506	292	45,655	232	211	174	139	149	145	161	164	189
1926 „ ..	654	198	207	156	159	155	116	151	153	159	149	187
1927 „ ..	524	175	143	151	157	154	119	148	150	152	144	189
1928 „ ..	*f*140	173	144	157	157	143	116	146	149	155	147	176
1929 „ ..	*a*144	157	139	151	155	145	116	148	155	160	146	181
1930 „ ..	142	151	126	140	152	136	109	149	144	147	143	187
1931 I. ..	127	145	110	133	148	111	103	134	133	135	135	198
II. ..	126	143	110	132	146	106	107	129	127	133	130	196
III. ..	127	142	109	133	144	103	107	124	126	131	126	194
IV. ..	127	141	109	132	142	104	107	121	122	131	125	190
V. ..	125	138	109	130	141	102	108	116	120	129	125	190

a Gold index. *b* New series. *c* Yearly average. *d* January. *e* Average of second quarter. *f* New series, November, 1927. *g* Since 1924 "Reichsmarks" prices. *h* Since 1923 "Zloty" prices recalculated—base October, 1926. *i* December. *j* Third quarter of year. *k* From 1915, for month of August. *l* For 1921–24, includes fuel and soap, since 1925 exclusive of those items. *m* Base 1921–25. *n* 1st June.

CHAPTER II.—WAGES.

§ 1. Operations Under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Industrial Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts and the various State Acts for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report and in the Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics.

2. **Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed.** The following table shows the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed, excluding variations, in each State and under the Commonwealth Statutes during each of the years 1926 to 1930.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed in each of the Years 1926 to 1930.

State.	1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.		1930.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements filed.
New South Wales	151	51	163	33	93	36	55	27	31	16
Victoria	106	..	74	..	73	..	46	..	83	..
Queensland	90	27	56	18	34	27	21	16	14	44
South Australia	14	7	15	4	14	4	13	9	17	1
Western Australia	10	37	6	57	19	28	15	29	8	38
Tasmania	7	2	4	..	10	3	4	2	10	1
Commonwealth Court ..	50	30	34	25	40	30	29	26	17	10
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator	10	..	1	..	6	..	4	..	5	..
Total	438	154	353	137	289	128	187	109	185	110

The figures in the preceding table are exclusive of variations and interpretations of principal awards and agreements, of which a considerable number are made each year. The total variations made by the State and the Commonwealth Courts, Wages and Industrial Boards, and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, numbered 1,067 in 1930, compared with 295 in 1929, and were distributed as follows:—New South Wales 519, Queensland 436, Western Australia 41, Commonwealth Court 50, Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator 14, and South Australia 7. In Victoria and Tasmania any alteration in the determination of a Wages Board is incorporated with the existing determination, and a new determination issued which wholly repeals the old one.

Industrial agreements filed during the year 1930 totalled 110, of which 100 were filed under the provisions of the State Industrial Acts in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, and 10 under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. The registration of industrial agreements is not provided for under the State Act in force in Victoria, but agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act are in operation within the State.

3. **Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**—Considerable expansion of the principle of the fixation of a legal minimum rate of wage and of working conditions has taken place during the period under review. The number of industrial awards and determinations in force throughout Australia at the 31st December, 1930, was 1,285, and the industrial agreements filed at the same date numbered 601. Including the operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts* the number of awards or determinations and industrial agreements in force has increased by 710 and 200 respectively over the number in force at the 31st December, 1913.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, generally speaking, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Section 28 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made ; provided that where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Section 47 (2), and in legislation for other States similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements, with the exception of those made under the provisions of the Tasmanian Act, continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian agreements have no legal effect after the term of operation has expired, unless and until revived perhaps by a subsequent agreement.

The provisions in the Commonwealth and State Industrial Acts that awards and agreements shall remain in force until they have been superseded or cancelled occasion some difficulty when the compilation of a list of awards, determinations and agreements actually operative is undertaken. The specified periods for many awards, etc., have expired. This applies not only to State awards and determinations but to awards of the Commonwealth Court also. No new awards or subsequent determinations for the industries concerned have been made, and the records do not show that they have been superseded or rescinded. Legally, therefore, they are in force. Certain awards, determinations and industrial agreements regarding which definite information that they have been superseded or rescinded is not readily ascertainable, are therefore included in these records, but in cases where it could be definitely claimed that the award, determination or agreement was out of date and the terms of the award, etc., were not actually in operation, such awards, etc., have not been included in the records as at 31st December 1930.

The above account may be accepted as a brief explanation in general terms of the currency of awards and agreements. There may be exceptions in certain cases, but they are infrequent.

* The *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act* 1904–30, and the *Arbitration (Public Service) Act* 1920–28.

Particulars of Boards, and of Awards, Determinations, and Industrial Agreements in Force, 1913 to 1930.

Dates.	Boards Authorized.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations.	Awards or Determinations in Force.*a*	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st December, 1913	505	387	575	401
" " 1915	573	498	663	546
" " 1920	475	440	1,041	972
" " 1925	575	524	1,181	607
" " 1929	643	567	1,297	605
" " 1930	644	582	1,285	601

(*a*) Including awards made by Arbitration Courts and the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.

The following table shows the number of Industrial and Wages Boards authorized, and the number of awards, determinations and industrial agreements in force at 31st December, 1913 and 1930 :—

Industrial and Wages Boards Authorized, and Industrial Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force, 1913 and 1930.

Particulars.	At 31st Dec.	Commonwealth.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
		Court.	Pub. Ser. Arb.							
Industrial and Wages— Boards authorized ..	1913	..	..	218	135	75	56	..	23	505
	1930	..	..	308	188	2	76	16	54	644
Boards which have made Determinations	1913	..	..	123	123	74	47	..	19	386
	1930	..	..	277	175	2	66	11	51	582
Awards and Determinations— In force	1913	17	..	265	127	73	54	18	21	575
	1930	134	42	465	179	265	72	78	50	1,285
Industrial Agreements— In force	1913	228	..	75	..	5	11	82	..	401
	1930	143	..	117	..	122	29	187	3	601
Commonwealth Court Awards— Number in force in each State ..	1913	..	..	13	17	15	16	9	13	..
	1930	..	..	82	97	26	68	30	57	..
Commonwealth Agreements— Number in force in each State	1913	..	..	132	129	68	62	57	61	..
	1930	..	..	42	59	14	23	11	33	..
Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator— Number of Determinations in force in each State ..	1930	..	..	38	34	30	31	30	29	..

Information as to the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout the Commonwealth has been given in previous Reports and brief reviews have been furnished each year respecting new legislation of an industrial character, as well as information respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this Report, brief particulars are given regarding new industrial legislation and special reports and tribunals connected with industrial matters during the year 1930.

(i.) *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court.*—The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court during 1930 was 17, and 10 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. Among the industries and occupations for which awards were made during the year were—fruit-growing; coal mining; brewery employees; engine-drivers and firemen (electric supply); railway employees (consolidated award); theatrical employees (sound projecting operators); marine and power engineers; manufacturing grocers' employees; timber workers (railways); engineers; liquor trade (aerated water section); wharf labourers (permanent and casual), and municipal employees. Industrial agreements covering the undermentioned occupations were filed during the year—flour-mill employees; marine and power engineers; municipal employees, Melbourne and suburbs; manufacturing grocers' employees and employees in the meat industry (slaughtermen). The judgment for the metal trades group of industries was delivered on 18th December, 1929, and the award was made on 26th March, 1930. This award covers workpeople following the occupations of engineers, blacksmiths, brass-finishers, metal moulders, boilermakers, steel construction workers, electricians, sheet metal workers and iron workers' assistants. For the first time the Court dealt with claims by both employers and employees covering industrial relationships in the engineering and allied industries as a whole, and it was estimated that establishments employing over 100,000 workpeople would be affected either directly or indirectly by the award. On 25th March 1930 consolidated awards were made by the Court covering railway employees in the States of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. These awards repealed the interim awards which were made during the hearing of the plaints, and set out in consolidated form the decisions arrived at relating to the rates of pay and working conditions of daily paid and salaried grades of railway employees.

A Basic Wage Inquiry by the Full Arbitration Court was undertaken during October and succeeding months. The inquiry followed on the applications of the Victorian and New South Wales Railways Commissioners for variations of current awards in the railway industry. The applications sought orders making provision for (*a*) a variation in the basic wage, (*b*) rationing of employment, and (*c*) a percentage reduction of wages and/or salaries. The variations in the basic wage sought were—the abolition of the "Powers 3s."; the adoption of the Statistician's "all items" purchasing power of money index-number figures in lieu of the figures now in use for determining the basic wage and adjustments thereof. The matters in respect to the basic wage and standard hours were referred to the Full Arbitration Court.

On 5th November 1930, by direction of the Court, all organizations bound by awards of the Court were notified that the matters in issue affected the basic wage and were advised that they could intervene in the hearing if so desired. The Acting Attorney-General of the Commonwealth intervened in the public interest. Representatives were nominated by the Railway Commissioners of Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania, and by employers' associations and companies covered by awards of the Court, and the employees were represented by officials of the unions interested.

The hearing of evidence commenced in October and concluded on 15th January 1931. A mass of statistical data was submitted to the Court, and during the early stages of the inquiry the evidence was mainly in connexion with the methods adopted by the Commonwealth Statistician

in the collection and computation of the retail price index-numbers. The two series of index-numbers in question were reviewed in detail, and the Commonwealth Statistician was subjected to cross-examination by both parties, and by the Court.

In an interim judgment delivered on 12th November, the Court stated that—"Although the present method of arriving at the basic wage had been in operation for many years, all had been aware of its imperfections, and there had been a growing belief, shared by the Court, as at present constituted, that the whole matter required further consideration. No perfect system based on averages derived from statistical data could be devised for the fixing of statutory minimum wages. With its acknowledged imperfections the method adopted by our predecessors of applying the Commonwealth Statistician's index-figures to the standard set by the 'Harvester' judgment had done good service, and the discovery of any better method could only be made after long and careful inquiry." On the part of the unions it was contended that the proposed new method of calculating the wage would operate unfairly and would mean an actual lowering of the "Harvester" standard.

The Court in its final judgment stated *inter alia*—"It is admitted on all sides that the fixation of a basic wage on family units results in serious anomalies. In some States the family unit adopted is an average family of man, wife, and two children; in the Federal area it is a man, wife, and three children; whilst in New South Wales it is man, wife, and one child, plus certain provision for child endowment. In Queensland productivity is now the determining factor. . . . . But the function of the Court is not merely to ascertain what is the cost of living of the predominant family unit. It carries the responsibility of fixing a basic wage for adults, single, married without children, or married with children whatever the number may be. Whatever the ascertained cost of living at a certain standard of comfort may be, the Court in fixing a wage must of necessity consider the productive capacity of the Commonwealth. A basic wage to provide for the average needs of a man, wife, and three children, extended to all single men and to men who have no children, is admittedly beyond the capacity of industry. The New South Wales Legislature has attempted to deal logically with the situation by prescribing a minimum for a man, wife, and one child, with a scheme of endowment for extra children. If the basic wage system is to persist, national consideration of a system of child endowment appears to be the only method by which the wage can be equitably fixed."

In the interim award of 12th November, the Court made the following intimation—"The Court will on Monday next, 17th November, proceed to deal with the one and only issue which, in its opinion, is raised in this proceeding, viz.—that the decline in the national income, and the reduction in the spending-power due to cessation of loans, make necessary a reduction of the basic wage." Evidence upon this issue was submitted to the Court, and related to the decline in the national income, the fall in the prices of Australia's raw products, the effect of the reduced spending power, the past profits of industry, the need for the rationalization of industry, currency and credits, the sharing of the burden, and cognate matters. Economic and financial experts, and industrial advocates submitted evidence, and the general economic and financial position of the Commonwealth was reviewed.

On 22nd January 1931 final judgment was delivered. The Court refused to make any variations in the basic wage or in the present method of calculation thereof without further inquiry, but after much anxious

thought it was forced to the conclusion that for a period of twelve months and thereafter until further order, a general reduction of wages was necessary. As stated in the Court's judgment on the recent applications for cancellation of railway awards "An emergency has arisen which calls for immediate re-adjustment in all directions; re-adjustment of costs of government, costs of production and services, rents, dividends, interest, and other returns to capital, and costs of living. All must adapt themselves to the fundamental fall in national income and national wealth and to our changed trading relations with other countries."

With certain exceptions orders were made for variation of the awards covered by the applications by the reduction of all wage rates therein prescribed by ten (10) per cent., for a period of twelve months and thereafter until further order, such variation to operate from 1st February, 1931.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act was amended by Act No. 43 of 1930, assented to 18th August, 1930. Section 2 of the principal Act was amended by omitting paragraph 1—"to prevent lock-outs and strikes in relation to industrial disputes", and inserting in its stead the following paragraph:—"to promote goodwill in industry by conciliation and arbitration". Section 3 of the principal Act was amended by omitting the words "Part II.—Prohibition of Lock-outs and Strikes in relation to Industrial Disputes". In Section 4 the definitions of "lock-out" and of "strike" were omitted. Section 18A, sub-section 4 was amended to read "Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Court shall not have jurisdiction—unless constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges—(i) either to make an award (*a*) altering the standard hours of work in any industry; or (*b*) altering the basic wage or the principles on which it is computed; or (ii) to vary or give an interpretation of an award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration"; and by omitting from the sub-section the words "increase or reduction" and inserting in their stead the words "alteration, variation or interpretation".

Section 9 provides for the appointment of Conciliation Commissioners by the Governor-General, not more than three to be appointed. Each Conciliation Commissioner shall, subject to the Act, be appointed for a term of five years, and shall devote the whole of his time to the duties of his office. The powers of a Conciliation Commissioner are set out in the Act. He has the conciliatory and arbitral powers of a Judge of the Court, but no judicial powers. Any award made by him must not be inconsistent with the opinion of the Court, and does not come into effect until after the expiration of 21 days from the making thereof, except by consent of all parties.

Section 34 (Reference to Conciliation Committee) of the principal Act was repealed and the following section inserted in its stead—"In order to prevent or settle industrial disputes the Governor-General may appoint, for such period as he thinks proper, Conciliation Committees consisting of such numbers as he thinks proper". An application for the appointment of a Conciliation Committee may be made in the prescribed manner to the Industrial Registrar by any party to an industrial dispute. The Governor-General may appoint a Conciliation Commissioner as Chairman. Of the members, one-half shall be representative of employers, and one half shall be representative of organizations of employees. The Chairman shall not

be present at or take part in any deliberations of a Committee until or unless he is of opinion, or is informed by a representative of one or each of the parties, that the representatives appear unlikely in his absence to come to an agreement upon all of the matters in dispute. Thereafter the Chairman will preside at all meetings of the Conciliation Committee. This provision and several other provisions relating to the procedure to be adopted by Conciliation Committees have been declared invalid by the High Court.

The provision in the principal Act that the Court shall take into consideration the probable economic effect of the award or agreement in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon the industry or industries concerned, was repealed. The amending Act provides that no party can be represented by counsel, solicitor, or paid agent, except by leave of the Court and consent of all parties. All sections in the previous Act relating to the secret ballot, with the exception of sections 56D and 56G were repealed. Section 56D provides that the Court may order that any matter upon which it desires to ascertain the views of the members of an organization, which is a party to the dispute before it, be submitted to a vote by secret ballot. Section 56G declares that any person who obstructs the taking of a ballot, or uses any form of intimidation to prevent a person from voting, or being an officer of any organization refuses to assist in the taking of a ballot, or falsely represents that he is a member of an organization shall be guilty of an offence, and liable to a penalty of £50 or imprisonment for six months.

The following section was included—"No officer of an organization, or member of any committee thereof, shall, during the currency of an award in the industry concerned, advise, encourage or incite any member of such organization to refrain from—(*a*) entering into a written agreement, or (*b*) accepting employment, or (*c*) offering for work, or working, in accordance with such award. Penalty £20".

Section 47 of the Principal Act "Process against property of organization" was repealed. Provision was made for resignation from membership of organization, and the portion relating to the powers of organizations to recover fines, &c., was amended.

During the passage of the Bill through Parliament a deadlock occurred between the two Houses. The Bill was passed through all stages by the House of Representatives, but the Senate carried a number of amendments which were not acceptable to the Government. Finally a conference of Managers was held to discuss the amendments. Five Managers were appointed by each House. Of the 30 amendments in dispute the Managers agreed to nineteen, modified seven and rejected four. The two Houses accepted the agreement arrived at by the Managers and the Bill was passed through all stages.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—During the year 1930 the number of Conciliation Committees established under the Industrial Act of 1926 was 35, and at the end of the year 267 Committees were in force. In addition, 308 Industrial Boards, constituted under the Act of 1912 were in force but no awards were issued by these Boards, the work previously performed by them being undertaken mainly by the Conciliation Committees. Three principal awards were published by the Industrial Commission and 28 by Conciliation Committees. The "living" wage for the State was revised by the Commission

in December 1929, the rates being fixed at £4 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers and £2 4s. 6d. per week for adult female workers. The family unit taken for the adult male rate was a man, wife and one child. The above rates were not revised during the year 1930. The number of subsiduary awards issued during the year was 510, of which 30 were made by the Industrial Commission, 112 by Conciliation Committees, and 368 variations by the Industrial Registrar. The number of awards in force at 31st December 1930, was 465. At the same date, 117 industrial agreements filed under the State Act were in force.

The Family Endowment (Amendment) Act, No. 11 of 1930, assented to on the 17th April 1930, amended section three of the principal Act by omitting the definitions of " employee " and " employer " and inserting in lieu thereof amended definitions. New provisions relating to the lodging of returns of wages paid by employers were brought into operation by the amended Act.

The Finance (Family Endowment Tax) Act, No. 10 of 1930, assented to on the 17th April 1930, declared the percentages at which contributions to the Family Endowment Fund are to be made by employers in respect of wages paid after the first day of October 1929. The *Finance (Family Endowment Tax Reduction) Act* 1929, was repealed. The amended Act provided that during the period 1st October 1929 to 19th December 1929, and thereafter to 31st December 1929, the contributions by employers upon the total amount of wages paid shall be two per centum. From the 1st January, 1930, the contribution shall be one per centum.

The Industrial Arbitration (Eight Hours) Amendment Act, No. 22 of 1930, assented to on the 16th June 1930, repealed the *Forty-four Hours Week Act* 1925, and amendment thereof, and provided for a working week of 48 hours. Directions to be observed by the Court or boards in making awards in the metalliferous mining industry and in all other industries are provided, so far as working hours per day or per week are concerned. Section 5 provides that every award or agreement in force at the commencement of the Act shall respectively be deemed to incorporate such of the provisions regarding hours as set out in section 4 as relate to the industry in which the conditions of employment are regulated by award or agreement. Wages fixed by any award or agreement in force at commencement of the Act, or any award made or agreement entered into after such commencement upon a weekly basis shall not be increased by reason of any increase of the ordinary working hours by and under the Act. Where the ordinary working hours are increased by the Act, the rates of wage payable upon a daily or hourly basis shall be reduced to such rates as will provide each employee working full time the same amount of wages as he would have received for working full time under the provisions of the award or agreement. Piecework rates are also subject to adjustment. The adjustment of existing awards by the Registrar upon application by any party bound thereby is provided for. Section 8 deals with the rationing of employment. Section 11 provides that any award or industrial agreement in force at the commencement of the Act or thereafter made which prohibits piece-work or contract work, or any other system of payment by results in any industry shall, to the extent of such prohibition, be void and of no effect. Before any award is made and in proceedings for the variation or cancellation of an award, or for the reduction of the ordinary working hours in any industry

the probable economic effect of the award in relation to the community in general and the probable economic effect thereof upon the industry shall be considered.

The above Act was amended by the Industrial Arbitration (Eight Hours) Further Amendment Act, No. 53 of 1930, assented to 23rd December 1930, and proclaimed to commence on 5th January 1931. The working week of 44 hours was restored. Wages fixed by any award or agreement on a weekly basis were not to be reduced by reason only of the reduction of ordinary working hours under the Act, and daily and hourly rates of wage shall, without order of the Court, be increased to such amounts as will provide each employee working full time the same amount of wages as he would have received for working full time under the provisions of the award. Provision was made for adjustment of piece-work rates.

Section 8 of the previous Act which provided that any employer could adopt rationing of employment was amended so that rationing shall apply only to and in respect of employees of the Crown, including all salaried and all permanent officers, but shall not apply to such employees under the Police Regulation Act. Section 11 of the previous Act which provided that the section in any award relating to the prohibition of piece-work or contract work, or any other system of payment by results shall be void and of no effect was omitted from the amended Act.

(iii.) *Victoria.*—Two Wages Boards were authorized and constituted during the year, viz.—Ice Cream Board, and Shops Board (Motor Requisites). The Musicians' Wages Board, which had been authorized for some years was constituted during 1930 and issued determinations. Wages Boards, as a whole, made 83 determinations during the year. This number includes determinations which were reviewed more than once during the twelve months. Although the legislation in this State does not provide for automatic adjustment of wages according to the rise or fall in the retail price index-numbers, it is the practice for certain of the Wages Boards regulating wages and working conditions in industries for which Commonwealth Court awards are also in force in the State to meet and revise the rates of wage, bringing them into close conformity with those being paid by employers working under the Commonwealth awards. Among the Boards adopting this practice are those covering employees in the industries of engineering (skilled and unskilled); iron-moulding; gas-working, and engine-driving (factory). Determinations covering these trades were revised and gazetted, in some cases three, and in other cases, four times during the year.

With the exception of Acts passed for the relief of unemployment no special legislation of industrial import came into force during the twelve months.

(iv.) *Queensland.*—The Industrial Court made fourteen awards during the year and 44 industrial agreements were filed. Two revisions of the basic wage were made during the year by the Industrial Court. The basic rate of 85s. per week for adult male workers which had been in operation since 1925, was reduced to 80s. per week for adult male employees as from 1st August, 1930, and a further revision brought the rate to 77s. per week as from 1st December 1930. The basic rates as from 1st July 1931, were determined at 74s. per week for adult male employees, and 39s. per week for adult female employees.

At the end of the year 1930, 265 awards and 122 industrial agreements under the State Industrial Act were in force.

The *Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act* 1929, was amended during 1930. The amended Act provides that the Court or Board shall, on the application of any party or parties interested, fix the rates and conditions of piece-work or payment by results, or prescribe an incentive wage in any industry where the Court or Board is of opinion that it is to the advantage of such industry to do so. The section of the principal Act relating to the granting of preference was repealed, and a new section to the effect that the Court or Conciliation Commissioner or Board shall not have power or jurisdiction to award preference to employees being members of any union or organization, or to employees not belonging to any union or organization was inserted. Preference to returned soldiers and sailors was allowed to stand. A new section giving power to the Conciliation Commissioner to permit rationing of work was inserted.

(v.) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Court made nine awards during the year, and eight determinations were made by Industrial Boards. The Bread Carters' Industrial Board was constituted in August, and issued a determination concerning wages and conditions of such employees in December.

A public inquiry for the purpose of assessing the living wage for adult males in the metroplitan area was held by the Board of Industry as a result of an application of the South Australian Employers' Federation, and on 11th October 1930, the Board determined and declared the living wage at 12s. 6d. per day. The Board was unable to reach a unanimous decision. The declaration made was that of the majority of the members. A separate report was submitted to the Minister of Industry by the minority of the Board. The living wage for adult females in the metroplitan area was declared by the Board of Industry at 35s. per week on 22nd December 1930. A minority report was issued also in connexion with this declaration. The previous declarations of the Board of Industry had been in operation for over five years, the living wage of 14s. 3d. per day for adult males being declared on 29th July 1925, and 39s. 6d. per week for adult females on 17th August 1925. In a judgment of the Board of Industry, dated 17th August 1931, the living wage for adult males was determined at 63s. per week.

The Reports of the Board of Industry with respect to the living wages declared during 1930 are published in Bulletin No. 8 issued by the Department of Industry, South Australia.

(vi.) *Western Australia.*—During the year the Industrial Court made eight awards and 38 industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Act. One industrial agreement was made a "common rule" during the year.

In pursuance of the provisions of Part VII. of the *Industrial Arbitration Act* 1912–1925, the Court of Arbitration, on 10th June 1930, determined and declared the basic wage to be paid to adult male and female workers as follows:—Adult males, £4 5s. per week; adult females, £2 5s. 11d. per week, provided that the basic wage to be paid in the metropolitan area shall be—adult males, £4 6s. per week; adult females, £2 6s. 5d. per week.

These rates apply to unskilled workers. A review of the evidence and of the reasons for the determination of the above basic rates are incorporated in the *Western Australian Industrial Gazette*, Volume X. Nos. 2 and 3. In accordance with the provisions of the *Industrial Arbitration Amendment Act* 1930, which gave directions for an adjustment of the basic wage quarterly, the Industrial Court, on 3rd March 1931, declared the basic rates as follows :— Adult males, £3 18s. per week ; adult females, £2 2s. 2d. per week, within a radius of 15 miles from the General Post Office, Perth, and £3 17s. per week for adult males and £2 1s. 8d. per week for adult females outside that radius. When making the above declaration, the President of the Court stated that in the last session of Parliament an Act entitled *The Industrial Arbitration Amendment Act, No.* 41 *of* 1930 was assented to on the 24th December 1930, and under this Act the State Government Statistician is directed to supply as soon as practicable at the end of each quarter the price index-number and other information showing the variation in the cost of living which has occurred during the then last preceding quarter. If that statement shows a change of 1s. or more per week, then the Court shall consider the same. There is a direction also to the effect that the Court may adjust and amend the basic wage previously existing in accordance with the figures so supplied.

(vii.) *Tasmania.*—During the year Wages Boards made ten determinations, and one industrial agreement under the State Act was filed. The determinations made covered employees engaged in the following industries and callings :—Hairdressing; bootmaking ; jam-making; municipal employees ; rubber-working ; drapery employees ; produce store employees ; ironmongers, and employees on threshing machines. The industrial agreement filed related to rates of wage and working conditions of employees of sweep promoters. The State Industrial Act in force in Tasmania provides for the inclusion of a clause in the determination for the automatic adjustment of rates of wage according to the increase or decrease in the retail price index-number. The inclusion or otherwise of this provision is decided by the Wages Boards, and up to the end of the year 1930, the adjustment clause had not been inserted in many determinations. The rates of pay for cement workers, jam-makers and textile workers were automatically adjusted under this provision. A number of determinations issued during the early months of the year, 1931, embody the clause for automatic adjustment.

(viii.) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator.*—Determinations made by the Arbitrator during the year related to the salaries and working conditions of officers in the following classes—Third Division officers of the Auditor-General's Office in all States ; officers of the Public Service in Northern and Central Australia ; postal clerks and others, Third Division, Postmaster-General's Department, and telephonists and others in the same Department. Fourteen determinations were varied by the Arbitrator. The salaries and working conditions were varied in determinations covering meat inspectors ; cable recorders, Postmaster-General's Department ; draftsmen, Defence Department ; female assistants, Mail Branch ; female assistants, Treasury ; and excise officers, typists and others, Trade and Customs Department. Other variations made during the year related to payment for performance of higher duties, rates of pay for married minors, definitions, cost of living adjustments, and increments.

(ix.) *Federal Capital Territory.*—On the 11th April 1930, the Industrial Board appointed under the *Industrial Board Ordinance* 1922–1928, fixed the rates of pay and conditions of employment for workmen in the Territory as from 1st May, 1930, such rates to be binding on the Government and/or any contractor employed by it or performing work on its behalf. The wage for an unskilled labourer was fixed at 100s. per week. The Ordinance determined the rates of wage for a wide range of occupations, including construction and maintenance labourers, quarrymen, store employees, motor transport employees, watchmen and cleaners, fire brigade employees, survey hands, engineers, electricians, engine drivers and firemen, building trade employees and timbermill and brickworks' employees. The rates of wage specified in the Ordinance were reduced in 1931 by 16⅔ per cent. in connexion with the general scheme of salary and wage reductions in the Commonwealth Service.

§ 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. General.—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed or otherwise according to increasing age or experience are payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which obviously are not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., Mining, Shipping, Agricultural, and Pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations, and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted, but in many instances the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages often are so fixed and paid. Hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 industries, and related to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,* and in each State and Australia. The average rate of wage thus computed for the industrial groups represented the arithmetical average† of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within the industrial groups. It is not claimed that results obtained by this method

* The classification of ndustries adopted is shown on page 3.

† The summation of the weekly rate of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

are precisely correct, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no detailed system of weights could be applied. Though a great deal of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from the Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards, determinations, etc. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the average wage for that State for the particular year. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in the previous issues of the Labour Report.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28–43. In the early part of the year 1914 the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars of the weekly rates of wage in 930 specified industries and 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female) were included, and results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44–50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in separate States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, what for some purposes may be considered a more adequate standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been kept constant, but the particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections IV. and V.) to this Report include those for many additional occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made subsequent to the date specified by industrial tribunals, from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or were obtained by direct inquiry.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in various industrial groups The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652. The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State.

2. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1914-31.**—The arithmetical average of the rates of wage given in the appendixes referred to furnishes the basis for the computation of relative weighted wages in different industrial

groups and States. The following table gives particulars of the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers, at the 30th June 1914, and at the end of the periods specified to the 31st June 1931, for a full week's work in each State and for Australia, together with index-numbers for each State at each specified interval, with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

Wages—Adult Males—Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate payable for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers, 30th June 1914, to 30th June 1931.

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average wage for Australia in 1911 (51s 3d.) as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	(a)Australia.
No. of Occupations included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948

RATES OF WAGE.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
31st December, 1914	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
31st December, 1926	100 5	99 6	100 1	95 8	98 9	94 10	99 4
31st December, 1927	101 10	100 3	100 1	96 7	98 10	93 10	100 2
31st December, 1928	102 7	99 8	101 2	96 2	99 6	93 3	100 5
30th September, 1929	103 6	101 1	101 4	97 5	100 8	94 7	101 5
31st December, 1929	102 11	101 1	101 2	97 2	100 7	94 8	101 2
31st March, 1930	103 2	101 1	100 2	97 1	100 6	95 0	101 1
30th June, 1930	102 3	99 11	100 0	95 10	100 3	94 1	100 3
30th September, 1930	102 0	99 2	96 5	95 2	100 6	93 9	99 5
31st December, 1930	99 1	96 11	92 5	92 8	99 7	92 1	96 9
31st March, 1931	96 6	92 2	92 1	85 6	91 9	87 6	93 0
30th June, 1931	95 1	86 7	92 1	82 4	91 2	84 0	90 5

INDEX-NUMBERS.

30th June, 1914	1,091	1,059	1,030	1,060	1,225	1,026	1,079
31st December, 1914	1,096	1,065	1,042	1,062	1,226	1,028	1,085
31st December, 1926	1,959	1,941	1,952	1,867	1,927	1,851	1,938
31st December, 1927	1,988	1,957	1,953	1,885	1,928	1,832	1,955
31st December, 1928	2,001	1,944	1,974	1,877	1,941	1,820	1,959
30th September, 1929	2,020	1,973	1,977	1,901	1,964	1,846	1,979
31st December, 1929	2,007	1,972	1,975	1,896	1,963	1,848	1,974
31st March, 1930	2,013	1,973	1,954	1,894	1,961	1,853	1,973
30th June, 1930	1,995	1,949	1,952	1,870	1,956	1,836	1,956
30th September, 1930	1,990	1,935	1,881	1,858	1,961	1,829	1,939
31st December, 1930	1,933	1,891	1,803	1,807	1,943	1,797	1,887
31st March, 1931	1,882	1,798	1,797	1,668	1,789	1,708	1,814
30th June, 1931	1,855	1,689	1,795	1,607	1,779	1,640	1,764

(a) Weighted average.

3. **Adult Male Weekly Wages—Industrial Groups, 1914-31.**—The following table shows (*a*) the average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (*b*) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at 30th June and 31st December 1914, and at the periods specified for the years 1926 to 1931.

Wages—Adult Males—Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate payable for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each Industrial Group, 30th June, 1914, to 30th June, 1931.

NOTE.—Index-numbers for each industrial group and for all industrial groups are based on the average wage for all groups in 1911 (51s. 3d.) as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Date.	Industrial Group.														
	I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.(a)	XII. Agricultural, etc.(b)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(b)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.(c)
RATES OF WAGE.															
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914 ..	59 2	57 2	55 2	52 10	63 9	55 8	65 4	64 11	59 8	51 1	48 7	49 5	47 0	53 10	55 3
31st December, 1914 ..	59 6	57 9	55 8	53 0	63 10	56 0	65 5	65 2	59 8	52 8	49 10	49 5	47 11	54 0	55 7
31st December, 1926 ..	104 5	102 0	98 9	96 6	111 5	100 6	110 9	109 6	102 6	95 6	103 7	93 5	90 10	95 6	99 4
31st December, 1927 ..	104 6	102 10	99 8	98 3	113 7	101 4	112 10	109 9	103 1	97 4	103 7	94 3	93 3	96 0	100 2
31st December, 1928 ..	103 11	102 1	99 9	99 4	117 10	100 8	112 4	109 10	102 2	96 3	103 3	95 9	93 3	96 1	100 5
30th September, 1929..	104 8	103 11	101 1	100 0	119 3	102 7	113 5	110 6	105 2	97 8	106 7	95 10	93 5	97 0	101 5
31st December, 1929 ..	104 10	103 6	100 10	99 6	119 1	102 2	113 0	110 7	105 2	96 9	107 0	95 6	92 6	96 8	101 2
31st March, 1930 ..	104 11	103 5	100 11	100 2	119 0	102 3	113 9	110 8	104 11	96 9	107 0	95 0	92 6	96 8	101 1
30th June, 1930 ..	103 7	101 8	100 0	100 2	119 0	100 8	112 7	109 1	103 4	95 4	104 0	95 0	92 6	96 0	100 3
30th September, 1930..	102 8	100 11	98 8	99 5	116 9	99 8	111 9	108 10	102 2	94 6	102 11	94 8	91 11	94 10	99 5
31st December, 1930 ..	100 3	99 1	97 1	99 5	116 5	97 10	109 8	107 10	100 2	92 10	99 6	87 5	91 3	93 7	96 9
31st March, 1931 ..	94 4	92 10	95 2	89 7	113 4	93 4	106 10	105 8	92 1	90 11	89 4	83 9	89 8	91 7	93 0
30th June, 1931 ..	90 4	90 3	91 9	88 10	108 10	89 6	102 8	104 1	91 2	87 0	86 0	83 5	87 2	87 11	90 5
INDEX-NUMBERS.															
30th June, 1914 ..	1,154	1,116	1,077	1,031	1,243	1,086	1,275	1,267	1,164	997	948	964	918	1,050	1,079
31st December, 1914 ..	1,161	1,127	1,085	1,034	1,246	1,093	1,276	1,272	1,165	1,028	972	965	935	1,054	1,085
31st December, 1926 ..	2,037	1,991	1,926	1,883	2,173	1,961	2,160	2,137	2,001	1,863	2,020	1,823	1,772	1,863	1,938
31st December, 1927 ..	2,039	2,006	1,944	1,917	2,216	1,977	2,202	2,142	2,012	1,900	2,021	1,839	1,820	1,872	1,955
31st December, 1928 ..	2,028	1,993	1,947	1,939	2,299	1,964	2,191	2,143	1,994	1,878	2,014	1,869	1,820	1,874	1,959
30th September, 1929..	2,042	2,028	1,973	1,950	2,327	2,001	2,214	2,157	2,052	1,905	2,079	1,870	1,823	1,893	1,979
31st December, 1929 ..	2,046	2,019	1,967	1,942	2,323	1,994	2,205	2,157	2,052	1,888	2,087	1,863	1,804	1,886	1,974
31st March, 1930 ..	2,047	2,018	1,969	1,954	2,322	1,996	2,219	2,159	2,047	1,888	2,087	1,854	1,805	1,886	1,973
30th June, 1930 ..	2,022	1,984	1,951	1,954	2,322	1,964	2,196	2,128	2,016	1,861	2,029	1,854	1,805	1,873	1,956
30th September. 1930..	2,003	1,968	1,925	1,940	2,278	1,945	2,180	2,124	1,993	1,843	2,009	1,847	1,793	1,850	1,939
31st December, 1930 ..	1,956	1,933	1,894	1,940	2,271	1,909	2,139	2,104	1,955	1,812	1,941	1,706	1,780	1,826	1,887
31st March, 1931 ..	1,841	1,811	1,858	1,748	2,212	1,821	2,085	2,061	1,797	1,774	1,743	1,634	1,750	1,788	1,814
30th June, 1931 ..	1,763	1,762	1,790	1,732	2,124	1,746	2,003	2,031	1,780	1,697	1,678	1,627	1,701	1,716	1,764

(a) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied. (b) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied. (c) Weighted average.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages — States, 1914-31.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000) in order that comparisons might more readily be made between these index-numbers and the retail price index-numbers which are also computed to the year 1911 as base. In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the 30th June 1914, and at the intervals specified to the 30th June 1931. The table also gives index-numbers for each State based on the average weekly wage at the end of each of the periods indicated, computed with the weighted average wage for all States at the 30th April 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Wages—Adult Females—Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate payable for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers, 30th June 1914, to 30th June 1931.

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average wage for Australia at 30th April 1914, (27s. 2d.) as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.(a)
No. of Occupations included.	85	87	37	47	24	28	308
RATES OF WAGE.							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
31st December, 1914 ..	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
31st December, 1926 ..	50 8	51 11	52 10	50 0	58 6	51 8	51 8
31st December, 1927 ..	53 0	52 7	53 5	49 11	58 8	52 7	52 10
31st December, 1928 ..	53 7	53 9	54 10	50 11	58 10	53 4	53 10
30th September, 1929 ..	54 1	54 1	54 10	51 3	58 10	53 7	54 2
31st December, 1929 ..	53 11	54 1	54 10	51 4	58 10	53 9	54 1
31st March, 1930	54 0	54 3	55 0	51 6	58 10	54 0	54 2
30th June, 1930	54 0	54 3	55 0	51 6	58 10	53 11	54 2
30th September, 1930 ..	53 8	53 9	53 9	51 3	60 2	53 9	53 9
31st December, 1930 ..	53 8	53 6	52 11	51 2	60 1	53 8	53 7
31st March, 1931	51 3	50 2	49 7	46 1	55 10	50 6	50 5
30th June, 1931	51 0	48 10	49 7	45 9	55 10	49 1	49 8
INDEX-NUMBERS.							
30th June, 1914	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000
31st December, 1914 ..	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	950	1,008
31st December, 1926 ..	1,865	1,911	1,944	1,839	2,152	1,902	1,902
31st December, 1927 ..	1,950	1,934	1,936	1,838	2,160	1,935	1,945
31st December, 1928 ..	1,973	1,979	2,017	1,875	2,164	1,964	1,980
30th September, 1929 ..	1,992	1,989	2,020	1,887	2,165	1,973	1,992
31st December, 1929 ..	1,983	1,990	2,020	1,888	2,165	1,978	1,990
31st March, 1930	1,987	1,996	2,027	1,895	2,165	1,986	1,995
30th June, 1930	1,986	1,996	2,027	1,895	2,165	1,985	1,994
30th September, 1930 ..	1,976	1,977	1,977	1,886	2,214	1,978	1,979
31st December, 1930 ..	1,974	1,968	1,947	1,884	2,211	1,976	1,971
31st March, 1931	1,886	1,847	1,826	1,695	2,055	1,859	1,854
30th June, 1931	1,876	1,796	1,825	1,685	2,055	1,808	1,828

(a) Weighted average.

5. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—Industrial Groups, 1914-31.**—The following table shows the weighted average weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers at the 30th June and 31st December 1914, and at the periods specified for the years 1926 to 1931, in the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and in all groups combined. Taking the average wage for all groups at the 30th April 1914, as base (= 1,000), index-numbers are given, computed on the average rate of wage ruling at the end of each period.

Wages—Adult Females—Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate payable for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each Industrial Group, 30th June 1914, to 30th June 1931.

NOTE.—Index-numbers for each industrial group and all industrial groups, based on the average wage for all groups at 30th April 1914 (27s. 2d.), as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Date.	Industrial Group.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manufacturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(a)	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Groups.(b)
RATES OF WAGE.						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th June, 1914	22 6	24 9	26 11	31 1	30 2	27 2
31st December, 1914 ..	23 5	24 11	27 0	30 2	31 4	27 5
31st December, 1926 ..	47 8	51 7	52 10	52 0	52 0	51 8
31st December, 1927 ..	48 9	52 7	53 2	54 5	52 8	52 10
31st December, 1928 ..	49 3	54 2	53 1	55 1	52 10	53 10
30th September, 1929 ..	49 5	54 6	53 11	55 1	53 4	54 2
31st December, 1929 ..	49 4	54 4	53 11	54 9	53 10	54 1
31st March, 1930	49 4	54 7	53 11	54 9	53 9	54 2
30th June, 1930	49 3	54 7	53 10	54 9	53 9	54 2
30th September, 1930 ..	48 11	54 2	52 11	54 7	53 3	53 9
31st December, 1930 ..	48 4	54 2	52 7	54 2	52 10	53 7
31st March, 1931	48 0	48 9	51 0	52 8	52 3	50 5
30th June, 1931	45 8	48 5	48 0	52 6	51 6	49 8
INDEX-NUMBERS.						
30th June, 1914	828	911	991	1,144	1,110	1,000
31st December, 1914 ..	862	917	994	1,110	1,153	1,008
31st December, 1926 ..	1,754	1,900	1,943	1,912	1,914	1,902
31st December, 1927 ..	1,793	1,936	1,958	2,001	1,937	1,945
31st December, 1928 ..	1,813	1,993	1,954	2,029	1,946	1,980
30th September, 1929 ..	1,819	2,006	1,984	2,029	1,963	1,992
31st December, 1929 ..	1,815	1,999	1,984	2,015	1,982	1,990
31st March, 1930	1,817	2,010	1,984	2,015	1,979	1,995
30th June, 1930	1,814	2,010	1,982	2,015	1,979	1,994
30th September, 1930 ..	1,799	1,995	1,948	2,007	1,961	1,979
31st December, 1930 ..	1,777	1,994	1,934	1,994	1,945	1,971
31st March, 1931	1,768	1,795	1,879	1,940	1,923	1,854
30th June, 1931	1,679	1,781	1,768	1,932	1,897	1,828

(a) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied. (b) Weighted average.

6. **Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December 1930.**—(i.) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minimum payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in many instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are herein reduced to a common basis, viz., the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections IV and V) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables give the average number of hours per week for each State in industrial groups.

The tables show (*a*) the average weekly wage, (*b*) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (*c*) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Many of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or otherwise, hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working time and hourly rates of wage are not available.

The general effect of reducing the weighted average rates of wage to a common basis (*i.e.*, per hour) is to eliminate on comparison any apparent difference between the several States which may be due to unequal working time.

(ii.) *Adult Males.*—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at the 31st December 1930 :—

Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage—Adult Males—Weighted Average Rates of Wage Payable, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December 1930.

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.*a*	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	Weekly Wage	104/9	100/6	95/1	95/5	98/5	98/6	100/3
	Working Hours	46.13	47.97	44.03	48.00	46.58	47.90	46.58
	Hourly Wage	2/3¼	2/1¼	2/2	1/11¾	2/1¼	2/0¾	2/1¾
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	101/7	98/9	92/7	94/5	104/7	99/7	99/1
	Working Hours	44.57	46.71	44.00	46.63	44.80	46.16	45.53
	Hourly Wage	2/3¼	2/1½	2/1½	2/0½	2/4	2/2	2/2
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	99/9	96/11	91/4	97/1	101/2	95/7	97/1
	Working Hours	45.71	46.93	44.16	46.30	45.80	47.94	45.88
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	2/0¾	2/0¾	2/1¼	2/2½	2/0	2/1½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	96/8	99/11	103/11	104/2	106/0	93/5	99/5
	Working Hours	45.71	45.17	44.00	44.00	44.00	46.29	45.16
	Hourly Wage	2/1¼	2/2½	2/4½	2/4½	2/5	2/0¼	2/2½
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	121/10	113/7	104/4	111/8	133/5	111/3	116/5
	Working Hours	43.38	43.78	44.00	43.56	42.52	43.35	43.56
	Hourly Wage	2/9¾	2/7½	2/4½	2/6¾	3/1¾	2/6¾	2/8
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	100/7	95/6	92/4	98/8	101/1	96/7	97/10
	Working Hours	45.65	47.20	44.81	47.25	46.03	47.04	46.32
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	2/0¼	2/0¾	2/1	2/2¼	2/0¾	2/1¼
VII. Building	Weekly Wage	114/3	107/1	106/9	105/1	109/4	101/8	109/8
	Working Hours	45.09	44.33	44.00	44.44	44.13	44.59	44.61
	Hourly Wage	2/6½	2/5	2/5	2/4½	2/5¾	2/3¼	2/5½
VIII. Mining(*b*)	Weekly Wage	109/1	107/4	113/10	(*e*)	109/9	98/10	107/10
	Working Hours	43.20	45.12	43.47	..	43.65	45.25	43.81
	Hourly Wage	2/6¼	2/4½	2/7½	..	2/6¼	2/2½	2/5½
IX. Rail and Tram Services	Weekly Wage	103/11	100/2	95/10	94/1	100/2	92/11	100/2
	Working Hours	47.14	47.49	46.95	48.00	44.10	48.00	47.06
	Hourly Wage	2/2½	2/1½	2/0½	1/11½	2/3¼	1/11½	2/1½
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	97/1	89/7	89/2	87/8	98/11	90/2	92/10
	Working Hours	47.43	47.73	47.33	48.00	46.50	48.00	47.53
	Hourly Wage	2/0½	1/10½	1/10½	1/10	2/1½	1/10½	1/11½
XI. Shipping, etc.	Weekly Wage(*c*)	99/10	99/4	97/8	100/10	98/9	99/9	99/6
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage(*d*)	89/5	87/4	83/6	86/4	89/2	87/7	87/5
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage(*d*)	92/7	94/9	81/7	91/10	95/2	70/2	91/3
	Working Hours	46.10	48.33	44.40	48.00	48.00	48.00	46.86
	Hourly Wage	2/0	1/11½	1/10¼	1/11	1/11¾	1/5½	1/11¼
XIV. Miscellaneous	Weekly Wage	95/2	95/5	88/5	90/2	94/2	87/4	93/7
	Working Hours	46.54	47.74	44.44	47.84	47.23	48.56	46.88
	Hourly Wage	2/0½	2/0	1/11¾	1/10½	2/0	1/9½	2/0
All Groups	Weekly Wage	99/1	96/11	92/5	92/8	99/7	92/1	96/9
All Groups excepting XI. and XII.	Weekly Wage	101/6	98/10	95/5	93/11	101/10	93/7	99/0
	Working Hours	45.64	46.85	44.43	46.83	45.55	47.09	45.98
	Hourly Wage	2/2¾	2/1¼	2/1¾	2/0	2/2¾	1/11¾	2/1¾

(*a*) Particulars relate to the *average weighted* weekly wage, working hours, and hourly wage respectively. (*b*) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State. (*c*) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation, where provided. (*d*) Including the estimated value of board and lodging where supplied. (*e*) Mining industry dormant owing to price of industrial metals. Very few workpeople employed regularly in metalliferous mining.

(iii.) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers, and weekly hours of labour at the 31st December 1930 :—

Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage—Adult Females—Weighted Average Rates of Wage payable, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December 1930.

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.(a)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	47/11	50/5	40/11	44/3	46/5	48/6	48/4
	Working Hours	45.60	47.33	44.00	48.00	44.00	48.00	46.39
	Hourly Wage	1/0½	1/0¾	0/11¼	0/11	1/0¾	1/0¼	1/0½
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	54/3	53/4	55/7	56/7	55/9	52/8	54/2
	Working Hours	44.86	44.86	44.00	44.00	44.00	45.33	44.68
	Hourly Wage	1/2¼	1/2¼	1/3¼	1/3¼	1/3¼	1/2	1/2½
I., II., V., & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	52/4	53/7	47/5	50/6	..	55/6	52/7
	Working Hours	44.48	45.73	44.14	46.17	..	44.00	45.15
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/2	1/1	1/1¼	..	1/3¼	1/2
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc	Weekly Wage(b)	52/9	56/7	48/9	49/3	64/10	56/1	54/2
	Working Hours	46.77	46.15	44.00	48.00	47.20	48.00	46.32
	Hourly Wage	1/1½	1/2¾	1/1¼	1/0¼	1/4½	1/2	1/2
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	54/10	52/5	55/0	44/0	..	..	52/10
	Working Hours	47.43	46.00	44.00	48.00	..	..	46.53
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/1¾	1/3	0/11	..	..	1/1¾
All Groups	Weekly Wage	53/8	53/6	52/11	51/2	60/1	53/8	53/7
	Working Hours	45.85	45.44	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	45.48
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/2	1/2½	1/1¼	1/3¾	1/2	1/2¼

(a) Particulars relate to the *average weighted* weekly rates of wage, working hours, and hourly wage respectively. (b) Including the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Average Nominal Weekly Wage—States, 1891 to 1930.**—The following table shows the average weekly rate of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1930. The wages given in this table relate to the 31st December in each year.

Average Nominal Weekly Rates of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for the years specified from 1891 to 1930

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average wage for Australia in 1911 (51s. 3d.) as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in the table are comparable throughout.

Particulars.	1891.	1901.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
New South Wales	44 1	43 11	46 7	51 5	56 2	76 9	94 0	95 10	100 5	101 10	102 7	102 11	99 1
Victoria ..	40 5	40 9	43 11	50 6	54 7	72 0	86 1	93 7	99 6	100 3	99 8	101 1	96 11
Queensland ..	46 6	46 2	46 10	51 1	53 5	78 7	91 6	96 8	100 1	100 1	101 2	101 2	92 5
South Australia	41 7	42 0	43 11	51 11	54 5	70 5	82 8	89 5	95 8	96 7	96 2	97 0	92 8
Western Australia	52 4	53 11	53 11	59 0	62 10	77 8	89 9	95 0	98 9	98 10	99 6	100 7	99 7
Tasmania ..	38 6	36 10	37 1	41 0	52 8	69 0	85 9	91 8	94 10	93 10	93 3	94 8	92 1
Australia(a) ..	43 5	43 5	45 9	51 3	55 7	74 11	89 10	94 6	99 4	100 2	100 5	101 2	96 9

INDEX-NUMBERS.

N.S. Wales ..	861	858	910	1,003	1,096	1,498	1,835	1,869	1,959	1,988	2,001	2,007	1,933
Victoria ..	789	796	857	985	1,065	1,404	1,679	1,826	1,941	1,957	1,944	1,972	1,891
Queensland ..	908	901	914	997	1,042	1,534	1,785	1,886	1,952	1,953	1,974	1,975	1,803
S. Australia ..	811	819	858	1,013	1,062	1,373	1,613	1,745	1,867	1,885	1,877	1,896	1,807
W. Australia ..	1,022	1,052	1,053	1,152	1,226	1,516	1,751	1,853	1,927	1,928	1,941	1,963	1,943
Tasmania ..	751	719	725	799	1,028	1,346	1,674	1,788	1,851	1,832	1,820	1,848	1,797
Australia(a)	848	848	893	1,000	1,085	1,462	1,752	1,844	1,938	1,936	1,959	1,974	1,887

(a) Weighted average.

8. **Average Nominal Weekly Wage—Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1930.**—The following table shows for various years the average weekly wages payable in each industrial group. The wages relate to the 31st December in each year.

Average Nominal Weekly Rates of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers in each Industrial Group for the years specified from 1891 to 1930.

NOTE.—Index-numbers for each industrial group and for all industrial groups are based on the average wage for all groups in 1911 (51s. 3d.) as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in the table are comparable throughout.

Particulars.	1891.	1901.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Group I, ..	52 5	52 3	53 9	57 8	59 6	75 9	95 1	98 2	104 5	104 6	103 11	104 10	100 3
„ II. ..	47 8	48 5	49 9	54 6	57 9	77 6	92 5	98 2	102 0	102 10	102 1	103 6	99 1
„ III. ..	38 2	44 7	46 3	50 9	55 8	75 6	89 3	93 10	98 9	99 8	99 9	100 10	97 1
„ IV. ..	36 8	36 3	43 10	50 3	53 0	73 5	86 5	93 3	96 6	98 3	99 4	99 6	99 5
„ V. ..	53 5	51 0	51 9	58 11	63 10	80 9	99 6	104 7	111 5	113 7	117 10	119 1	116 5
„ VI. ..	46 4	46 5	46 4	51 11	56 0	75 4	88 11	95 0	100 6	101 4	100 8	102 2	97 10
„ VII. ..	50 6	53 10	56 7	62 1	65 5	79 8	95 7	102 5	110 8	112 10	112 4	113 0	109 8
„ VIII. ..	58 1	54 8	57 3	61 2	65 2	88 4	103 10	105 4	109 6	109 9	109 10	110 7	107 10
„ IX. ..	50 10	52 4	52 7	57 0	59 8	78 6	93 1	97 5	102 6	103 1	102 2	105 2	100 2
„ X. ..	39 6	40 9	41 8	46 7	52 8	73 4	87 3	90 2	95 6	97 4	96 3	96 9	92 10
„ XI. ..	38 2	38 5	40 4	44 7	49 10	77 9	88 0	101 8	103 7	103 7	103 3	107 0	99 6
„ XII. ..	34 10	32 1	37 5	43 0	49 5	70 3	87 1	89 0	93 5	94 3	95 9	95 6	87 5
„ XIII. ..	32 10	30 8	31 2	45 5	47 11	68 7	80 6	84 2	90 10	93 3	93 3	92 6	91 3
„ XIV. ..	39 7	38 10	41 7	47 7	54 0	71 3	84 11	91 1	95 6	96 0	96 1	96 8	93 7
ALL GROUPS .. (a)	43 5	43 5	45 9	51 3	55 7	74 11	89 10	94 6	99 4	100 2	100 5	101 2	96 9

INDEX-NUMBERS.

—	1891.	1901.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	1,023	1,019	1,049	1,125	1,161	1,479	1,855	1,916	2,037	2,039	2,028	2,046	1,956
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	931	945	971	1,064	1,127	1,512	1,803	1,915	1,991	2,006	1,993	2,019	1,933
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	745	871	902	991	1,085	1,473	1,742	1,832	1,926	1,944	1,947	1,967	1,894
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	716	708	856	931	1,034	1,433	1,687	1,819	1,883	1,917	1,939	1,942	1,940
V. Books, Printing, etc.	1,043	996	1,010	1,149	1,246	1,576	1,941	2,040	2,173	2,216	2,299	2,323	2,271
VI. Other Manufacturing	904	907	905	1,013	1,093	1,470	1,736	1,854	1,961	1,977	1,964	1,994	1,909
VII. Building	986	1,050	1,105	1,213	1,276	1,554	1,865	1,999	2,160	2,202	2,191	2,205	2,139
VIII. Mining	1,134	1,067	1,117	1,194	1,272	1,724	2,026	2,056	2,137	2,142	2,143	2,157	2,104
IX. Rail and Tram Services	992	1,021	1,027	1,113	1,165	1,532	1,816	1,901	2,001	2,012	1,994	2,052	1,955
X. Other Land Transport	772	795	813	910	1,026	1,431	1,702	1,760	1,863	1,900	1,878	1,888	1,812
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	745	751	787	871	972	1,518	1,716	1,984	2,020	2,021	2,014	2,087	1,941
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc. ..	680	627	730	839	965	1,370	1,699	1,736	1,823	1,839	1,869	1,863	1,706
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	641	598	608	887	935	1,338	1,571	1,642	1,772	1,820	1,820	1,804	1,780
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	773	759	812	929	1,054	1,389	1,656	1,778	1,863	1,872	1,874	1,886	1,826
All Groups(a) ..	848	848	893	1,000	1,085	1,462	1,752	1,844	1,938	1,955	1,959	1,974	1,887

(a) Weighted average.

9. **Hourly Rates of Wage** (*a*)**—1914–1930.** The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified.

Average Nominal Hourly Rates of Wage—Adult Male Workers—30th April 1914, and at end of years 1919 to 1930.

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average hourly wage for Australia—30th April, 1914 (13.96d.) as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in the table are comparable throughout. The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
30th April, 1914 ..	1 2	1 1¾	1 1½	1 1¾	1 4¼	1 1	1 2
31st December, 1919	1 7½	1 6½	1 9	1 5½	1 7¾	1 5½	1 7¼
31st December, 1920	2 0	1 10	2 0½	1 8¾	1 11½	1 10	1 11
31st December, 1921	2 1¼	2 0¼	2 2	1 10¾	2 1	1 11½	2 0¾
31st December, 1922	2 0¼	1 11¾	2 1¼	1 10¾	2 0¾	1 10¾	2 0
31st December, 1923	2 0¾	2 1	2 1¼	1 11½	2 0½	1 11¾	2 0¾
31st December, 1924	2 0½	2 1	2 1¾	1 11¾	2 0¾	1 11¾	2 0¾
31st December, 1925	2 1¼	2 1½	2 3¾	2 0½	2 1½	2 0	2 1½
31st December, 1926	2 3¼	2 2	2 4	2 0¾	2 2¼	2 0½	2 2½
31st December, 1927	2 3¾	2 2¼	2 4	2 1¼	2 2¼	2 0¼	2 2¾
31st December, 1928	2 4	2 2	2 4	2 1	2 2¾	2 0	2 3
31st December, 1929	2 4	2 2½	2 4	2 1¼	2 2¾	2 0½	2 3
31st December, 1930	2 2¾	2 1¼	2 1¾	2 0	2 2¾	1 11¾	2 1¾

INDEX-NUMBERS.

30th April, 1914 ..	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st December, 1919	1,405	1,332	1,512	1,262	1,408	1,259	1,378
31st December, 1920	1,725	1,570	1,753	1,492	1,686	1,567	1,655
31st December, 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
31st December, 1922	1,735	1,709	1,803	1,621	1,766	1,628	1,726
31st December, 1923	1,775	1,790	1,808	1,676	1,754	1,696	1,771
31st December, 1924	1,761	1,790	1,838	1,709	1,771	1,706	1,774
31st December, 1925	1,808	1,823	1,988	1,761	1,827	1,723	1,829
31st December, 1926	1,944	1,864	1,997	1,776	1,878	1,746	1,900
31st December, 1927	1,980	1,880	1,998	1,800	1,882	1,731	1,920
31st December, 1928	2,004	1,867	2,001	1,788	1,916	1,728	1,928
31st December, 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
31st December, 1930	1,912	1,813	1,846	1,724	1,922	1,708	1,851

(*a*) Weighted average computed hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.,). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII.

10. **Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Males.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime) in a full working week for male workers in each State and Australia at the 30th April 1914, and at 31st December 1919 to 1930. Index-numbers are given for each State based on the average weekly hours at each of the periods specified, computed with the weighted average hours of labour for all States at the 30th April 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) Worked by Adult Male Workers during a Full Working Week, and Hours Index-Numbers, 30th April 1914, and 31st December of years 1919 to 1930.

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average hours of labour for Australia at the 30th April 1914 (48.93), as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in the table are comparable throughout.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (a)
30th April, 1914 ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
31st December, 1919	47.77	47.36	46.19	47.58	47.60	47.89	47.41
31st December, 1920	47.51	47.19	45.63	47.29	46.53	47.33	47.07
31st December, 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
31st December, 1922	46.05	46.99	45.51	47.00	46.41	46.93	46.38
31st December, 1923	46.73	47.06	45.51	47.00	46.66	47.27	46.70
31st December, 1924	46.75	46.99	45.40	46.98	46.52	47.26	46.66
31st December, 1925	46.76	46.98	43.88	46.97	46.26	47.25	46.44
31st December, 1926	44.55	46.94	43.95	46.95	45.80	47.27	45.57
31st December, 1927	44.44	46.82	43.96	46.78	45.75	47.16	45.46
31st December, 1928	44.17	46.70	43.96	46.67	45.30	46.85	45.27
31st December, 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
31st December, 1930	45.64	46.85	44.43	46.83	45.55	47.09	45.98

INDEX-NUMBERS.

30th April, 1914 ..	1,010	997	997	993	976	994	1,000
31st December, 1919	976	968	944	972	973	979	969
31st December, 1920	971	964	933	966	951	967	962
31st December, 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
31st December, 1922	941	960	930	961	948	959	948
31st December, 1923	955	962	930	961	954	966	954
31st December, 1924	955	960	928	960	951	966	954
31st December, 1925	956	960	897	960	945	966	949
31st December, 1926	910	959	898	960	936	966	931
31st December, 1927	908	957	898	956	935	964	929
31st December, 1928	903	954	898	954	926	957	925
31st December, 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
31st December, 1930	933	958	908	957	931	962	940

(a) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups excepting Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.) in which working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals.

11. Hourly Rates of Wage, 1914 to 1930—Adult Females.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified.

Average Nominal Hourly Rates of Wage—Adult Female Workers—30th April 1914, and at end of years 1919 to 1930.

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average hourly rate of wage for Australia at 30th April 1914 (6.64d.), as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in the table are comparable throughout. The rates of wage per hour are shown to the nearest farthing.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th April, 1914 ..	0 6½	0 6¾	0 6½	0 5¾	0 9¼	0 6	0 6¾
31st December, 1919	0 10	0 8¾	0 9¾	0 8½	0 11	0 8	0 9¼
31st December, 1920	0 11¾	0 11¼	0 11¾	0 10½	1 1¾	0 10½	0 11½
31st December, 1921	1 1	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¾	1 2¾	1 0	1 0¾
31st December, 1922	1 0½	1 0½	1 0¾	0 11½	1 2¾	1 0	1 0
31st December, 1923	1 1	1 0¾	1 1¼	1 0	1 2¾	1 0¼	1 1
31st December, 1924	1 0¾	1 1	1 1½	1 0	1 2¾	1 0½	1 1
31st December, 1925	1 1	1 1¼	1 2	1 0¾	1 3¼	1 0½	1 1¼
31st December, 1926	1 1¾	1 1¾	1 2½	1 1	1 3½	1 1	1 1¾
31st December, 1927	1 2½	1 1¾	1 2½	1 1	1 3½	1 1¼	1 2
31st December, 1928	1 2¾	1 2¼	1 3	1 1¼	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
31st December, 1929	1 2¾	1 2¼	1 3	1 1½	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
31st December, 1930	1 2	1 2	1 2½	1 1¼	1 3¾	1 2	1 2¼

INDEX-NUMBERS.

30th April, 1914 ..	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st December, 1919	1,523	1,307	1,483	1,262	1,639	1,211	1,410
31st December, 1920	1,777	1,685	1,761	1,578	2,069	1,580	1,730
31st December, 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
31st December, 1922	1,899	1,881	1,908	1,726	2,215	1,797	1,889
31st December, 1923	1,943	1,937	1,997	1,815	2,215	1,831	1,944
31st December, 1924	1,929	1,943	2,017	1,821	2,236	1,898	1,949
31st December, 1925	1,944	2,000	2,125	1,913	2,280	1,893	1,995
31st December, 1926	2,080	2,059	2,169	1,959	2,319	1,952	2,078
31st December, 1927	2,175	2,084	2,193	1,958	2,327	1,985	2,125
31st December, 1928	2,205	2,140	2,250	2,003	2,333	2,092	2,172
31st December, 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
31st December, 1930	2,113	2,127	2,172	2,011	2,383	2,105	2,128

12. Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour—Adult Females.—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (exclusive of overtime in a full working week for female workers in each State and Australia at 30th April 1914, and at 31st December 1919 to 1930.

Index-numbers are given for each State based on the average weekly hours at each of the periods specified, computed with the weighted average hours of labour for all States at the 30th April 1914, as base (= 1,000).

Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (exclusive of Overtime) worked by Adult Female Workers during a Full Working Week, 30th April 1914, and 31st December of years 1919 to 1930.

NOTE.—Index-numbers based on the average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914 (49.08), as base (= 1,000). The index-numbers in the table are comparable throughout.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
30th April, 1914 ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
31st December, 1919	47.53	47.63	46.76	47.67	48.12	49.28	47.54
31st December, 1920	46.83	46.23	46.09	46.51	46.20	47.86	46.47
31st December, 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
31st December, 1922	45.33	46.14	45.60	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.82
31st December, 1923	45.81	46.13	45.60	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.98
31st December, 1924	45.98	46.08	45.60	46.10	45.97	47.86	46.02
31st December, 1925	46.17	45.83	44.00	46.10	45.57	47.86	45.78
31st December, 1926	44.02	45.60	44.01	46.10	45.57	47.86	44.94
31st December, 1927	44.02	45.58	44.01	46.10	45.57	47.86	44.94
31st December, 1928	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
31st December, 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
31st December, 1930	45.85	45.44	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	45.48
	INDEX-NUMBERS.						
30th April, 1914 ..	1,005	989	1,005	1,005	992	1,034	1,000
31st December, 1919	968	970	953	971	980	1,004	967
31st December, 1920	954	942	939	948	941	975	947
31st December, 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
31st December, 1922	924	940	929	939	937	975	934
31st December, 1923	933	940	929	939	937	975	937
31st December, 1924	937	939	929	939	937	975	938
31st December, 1925	941	934	896	939	928	975	933
31st December, 1926	897	929	897	939	928	975	916
31st December, 1927	897	929	897	939	928	975	916
31st December, 1928	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
31st December, 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
31st December, 1930	934	926	897	938	928	939	927

13. **Nominal Wages and Effective Wages.**—(i.) *General.* Wages are said to be *nominal* when they represent the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* when their equivalence in purchasing power is expressed, that is their purchasing power according to some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which is ascertained at a particular date or during a particular period adopted as a datum for reference. The relation between nominal and effective wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and reference to the matter was also made in Labour Report No. 11.

(ii.) *Effective Weekly Wage Index-numbers*—1901 to 1930. In computing these effective wage index-numbers for the respective years the nominal wage index-numbers have been divided by the retail price index-numbers, food, groceries and rent (all houses) for the capital cities.

The resulting index-numbers show for each State and for Australia for the years specified the variations in effective wages. The nominal wage index-numbers for the years prior to 1914 are based on rates of wage current at the end of December, the only data available. For the years 1914 onward, however, the nominal wage index-numbers used are based on the average wage for the four quarters in each year, and in this respect differ from those in the preceding sections. However, so far as the years 1901 and 1911 are concerned, it must be noted that as the movement in wages during any one year prior to 1914 was very slight, it is possible even if the wage data were available in quarters that the index-numbers used would approximate very closely to those based on averages for the year.

Effective Wages (Full Work)—Adult Males—1901 to 1930.

Particulars.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
N.S.W. ..	961	973	906	875	911	1,079	1,069	1,048	1,035	1,079	1,089	1,050	1,107
Victoria ..	915	1,037	961	904	875	1,038	1,097	1,073	1,069	1,095	1,120	1,084	1,158
Queensland	1,172	1,090	1,038	990	1,036	1,244	1,232	1,241	1,183	1,222	1,236	1,220	1,317
S. Australia	948	957	929	901	853	1,027	1,051	1,053	1,076	1,073	1,08	1,067	1,166
W. Australia	1,024	1,023	1,070	1,008	1,012	1,139	1,161	1,162	1,165	1,199	1,15	1,143	1,229
Tasmania ..	827	838	942	840	830	977	1,017	1,044	1,037	1,072	1,099	1,064	1,111
Australia	964	1,000	948	907	911	1,076	1,095	1,081	1,072	1,102	1,115	1,082	1,152

In the preceding table the effective wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. Subject to the qualification already referred to, which, as has been pointed out, does not materially affect the figures, the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, and comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the effective wage index-number for any State over any period of years. Thus it will be seen that comparing 1930 with 1901 and with 1911, there has been an increase in the index-numbers in all States.

14. **Effective Wages and Standard of Comfort, 1901 to 1930.**—In the preceding paragraph particulars are given as to variations in effective wages in each State, due allowance having been made for variations in the purchasing-power of money, but not for unemployment.

For years prior to 1913 the data available as to unemployment are so meagre that comparative results allowing for variations both in the purchasing-power of money and in unemployment cannot be accurately computed for the several States. In the subjoined table, for these earlier years the percentage of unemployment for Australia and the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year. For the year 1914 and subsequent years, the wage index-numbers, percentages of unemployment, and retail price index-numbers are the average for the year. Column I. shows the nominal wage index-numbers, and Column II. the relative percentages unemployed (*see* Chapter III.). These percentages of unemployment are applied to the index-numbers in Column I. to obtain rate of wage index-numbers allowing for unemployment, which are shown in Column III. computed with the year 1911 as base = 1,000. In Column IV. the price index-numbers

are shown, and in Columns V. and VI, the effective wage index-numbers are given, firstly, for full work, and secondly, allowing for unemployment. These are obtained by dividing the figures in Columns I. and III., respectively by the corresponding figures in Column IV. The resulting index-numbers show for Australia for the years specified the variations in effective wages or in what may be called the "standard of comfort."* A comparison between the figures in Columns I. and V. shows the relation between the nominal rates of wage and the purchasing efficiency of these rates. The figures in Column VI. (see graph on page 8) show variations in effective wages after allowing not only for variations in prices, but also for unemployment.

Unemployment, and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers, for the years specified, 1901 to 1930.(*a*)

Year.	I. Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	II. Percentage Unemployed.	III. Rate of Wage Index-numbers, allowing for Unemployment. Recomputed. (1911 = 1,000).	IV. Retail Price Index-numbers.	Effective Wage Index-numbers. V. Full Work.	Effective Wage Index-numbers. VI. Allowing for Unemployment.
1901	848	6.6	832	880	964	945
1906	866	6.7	848	902	960	940
1907	893	5.7	884	897	996	986
1908	900	6.0	888	951	946	934
1909	923	5.8	913	948	974	963
1910	955	5.6	945	970	985	974
1911	**1,000**	4.7	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,000**
1912	1,051	5.5	1,042	1,101	955	946
1913	1,076	5.3	1,071	1,104	975	970
1914	1,081	8.3	1,040	1,140	948	912
1915	1,092	9.3	1,039	1,278	854	813
1916	1,144	5.8	1,131	1,324	864	854
1917	1,226	7.1	1,195	1,318	930	907
1918	1,270	5.8	1,255	1,362	932	921
1919	1,370	6.6	1,343	1,510	907	889
1920	1,627	6.5	1,596	1,785	911	894
1921	1,826	11.2	1,701	1,697	1,076	1,002
1922	1,801	9.3	1,715	1,600	1,126	1,072
1923	1,805	7.1	1,760	1,700	1,062	1,035
1924	1,840	8.9	1,759	1,681	1,095	1,046
1925	1,861	8.8	1,781	1,722	1,081	1,034
1926	1,914	7.1	1,866	1,786	1,072	1,045
1927	1,946	7.0	1,899	1,766	1,102	1,075
1928	1,963	10.8	1,837	1,760	1,115	1,044
1929	1,972	11.1	1,839	1,822	1,082	1,009
1930	1,939	19.3	1,642	1,683	1,152	976

(*a*) As to the effect in abnormal periods, *see* Section IV., par. 3, of Labour Report No. 6.

Note.—For years prior to 1914, the nominal wage index-numbers and the percentage unemployed relate to the end of the year only, but from 1914 onward these figures in addition to those for retail prices are averages for the whole year.

Compared with 1911 the effective wage in 1901 was 3.6 per cent. less for full work, and 5.5 per cent. less after allowance for unemployment. In connexion with the index-numbers in Column VI., unemployment was less in 1911—the base year, than in any other year. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with

* This expression must not be confused with "standard of living." A change in the standard of living necessarily involves a change in regimen (*see* Labour Report No 1) that is, a change in the nature or in the relative quantity of commodities purchased, or both. A change in the "standard of comfort," merely implies a variation in effective wages, which variation may or may not result in or be accompanied by a change in the "standard of living."

the result that the purchasing power of wages was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the effective wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

Retail prices fell rapidly during the year 1930, particularly during the last six months. Nominal wages declined, but not to the same extent as prices, with the result that the effective wage index-number for full work increased from 1,082 to 1,152, the highest point recorded in the investigation. As unemployment increased considerably, the index-number allowing for unemployment declined to 976, the lowest point recorded since the year 1921. Comparison with 1911 shows that the effective wage for full-time work was 15.2 per cent. higher, but allowing for unemployment was 2.4 per cent. lower during 1930.

15. **Productive Activity.**—The preceding table shows the movement in real (or effective) wages, i.e., wages measured in retail purchasing power over food and housing. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production.

The following table shows the total value of production from various sources during the years specified :—

Estimated Value of Australian Production, 1906 to 1930.

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Mining.	Manufacturing.	Total.
	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.	£1,000.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1907 ..	30,323	54,771	15,667	3,940	28,157	34,090	166,948
1908 ..	37,150	46,468	16,564	4,368	24,355	33,956	162,861
1909 ..	41,056	52,336	16,571	4,504	22,893	36,913	174,273
1910 ..	39,752	56,017	19,086	5,072	23,030	42,442	185,399
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1912 ..	45,754	56,148	21,713	6,745	25,475	53,401	209,236
1913 ..	46,162	63,146	21,682	6,626	25,594	57,674	220,884
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1915 ..	75,475	70,172	22,399	6,253	22,060	59,212	255,571
1916 ..	61,255	83,054	27,931	6,062	23,192	60,502	261,996
1917 ..	59,641	91,979	31,326	6,147	24,998	65,327	279,418
1918 ..	59,036	96,662	33,738	6,890	25,462	70,087	291,875
1919-20 ..	72,202	111,683	38,830	9,670	18,982	92,330	343,697
1920-21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,613	101,778	390,582
1921-22 ..	81,890	75,054	44,417	10,519	19,977	112,517	344,374
1922-23 ..	84,183	97,127	43,542	11,124	20,316	123,188	379,480
1923-24 ..	81,166	110,216	42,112	11,866	22,232	132,732	400,324
1924-25 ..	107,163	127,301	45,190	12,357	24,646	137,977	454,634
1925-26 ..	89,267	113,556	48,278	12,784	24,592	143,256	431,733
1926-27 ..	98,295	111,717	46,980	12,790	24,007	153,634	447,422
1927-28 ..	84,328	124,555	50,261	12,181	22,983	158,562	452,869
1928-29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,597	159,759	447,863
1929-30 ..	77,109	84,563	49,398	11,371	17,945	149,184	389,570

In previous issues an attempt has been made to measure the quantity of material production by means of production price index-numbers. These index-numbers have never been regarded as satisfactory over a long period, and there is danger in continuing them further in respect to manufacturing production. (*See* Production Bulletin No. 24, page 112.) In the absence of a satisfactory measure of the quantity of production, all that is offered here is a measure of "real" production, i.e., the value of production measured in the same retail purchasing power, which was used to find "real" wages.

Two tables are given:—The first shows "real" production per head of population. This table must be read with caution for the following considerations. The production considered is only material production and takes no account of services—as civilization advances, material production becomes less important relative to services, and a smaller proportion of the population is engaged in material production. For example, the present use of the motor car, the cinema, and wireless is comparatively recent, and these employ a much larger number of people in services than in material production, particularly when the material instruments are largely imported. It follows that material production per head of population will not measure accurately the progress of productive efficiency, but will tend to give too low a value. Unemployment, of course, will also depress it.

A better measure is given by "real" production per person engaged in material production. The second table attempts to give this. The result will give a better measure of productive efficiency, but will not take into account the effect of unemployment, though the index may be somewhat depressed by short time and rationing.

The two tables tell a different story. Before unemployment became severe in 1930, "real" production per head, as shown in the last column of the first table, had remained substantially steady, with minor fluctuations ever since 1906. Whatever gain had been made in productive efficiency had been off-set by the gradual swing-over from production of goods to production of services. With unemployment becoming intense in the last two years, the index fell from its normal figure of about 100 to 83 in 1929–30. The corresponding index for 1930–31 will probably be as low as 75. This would imply a fall in average real income of about 25 per cent. from the normal level, taking unemployment into account.

The index of "real" production per person engaged, as given in the last column of the second table, shows on the other hand an appreciable upward tendency. It rose steeply during the war, as might have been expected, fell somewhat after the war, and recovered again. For 1929–30, it fell to 105, due to the lag in the fall of retail prices, but for 1930–31, the index will be probably up to about 115 again, as contrasted with about 75 for "real" production per head. This high figure for "real" production per person engaged implies a high "real" wage for those in employment. This is consistent with our information about the rates of "real" wages (*see* Appendix, Section VIII.)—Wages and Prices—Table II.) which in the second quarter of 1931 had maintained the high level reached in the years 1927–29.

Production per Head of Population.

Year.	Value of Material Production.			Retail Prices Index Number (a) 1911 = 1,000.	"Real" Production per head of population (measured in retail purchasing power). 1911 = 100.
	Total £1,000.	Per head of population.			
		Actual.	Index Number. 1911 = 100.		
		£			
1901 ..	114,585	30.0	73	880	83
1906 ..	147,043	35.9	87	902	97
1907 ..	166,148	40.1	97	897	109
1908 ..	162,861	38.5	93	951	98
1909 ..	174,273	40.3	98	948	103
1910 ..	185,399	41.9	102	970	105
1911 ..	188,359	41.2	100	1,000	100
1912 ..	209,236	44.1	107	1,101	97
1913 ..	220,884	45.1	110	1,104	99
1914 ..	213,552	43.0	104	1,140	92
1915 ..	255,571	51.4	125	1,278	98
1916 ..	261,996	53.3	129	1,324	98
1917 ..	279,418	56.1	136	1,318	103
1918 ..	291,875	57.5	140	1,362	102
1919–20 ..	343,697	64.8	157	1,624	97
1920–21 ..	390,582	72.2	175	1,821	96
1921–22 ..	344,374	62.5	152	1,600	95
1922–23 ..	379,480	67.4	164	1,642	100
1923–24 ..	400,324	69.6	169	1,714	99
1924–25 ..	454,634	77.4	188	1,690	111
1925–26 ..	431,733	72.1	175	1,766	99
1926–27 ..	447,422	73.2	178	1,763	101
1927–28 ..	452,869	72.6	176	1,776	99
1928–29 ..	447,863	70.7	172	1,785	96
1929–30 ..	389,570	60.7	148	1,783	83

(a) Retail prices of food, groceries, and houses (all houses) for six capital cities.

Production per Person Engaged.

Year.	Number engaged in Material Production.(a)	Value of Material Production per person engaged in production.(a)		"Real" Production per person engaged (measured in retail purchasing power) 1911 = 100.
		Actual.	Index Number. 1911 = 100.	
	(1,000.)	£		
1906	659	223	87	96
1907	678	244	95	106
1908	677	239	93	98
1909	684	252	98	104
1910	704	262	102	105
1911	728	257	100	100
1912	744	279	109	99
1913	756	290	113	102
1914	733	289	113	99
1915	704	361	141	110
1916	685	381	148	112
1917	683	408	159	120
1918	685	424	165	121
1919–20 ..	743	460	179	110
1920–21 ..	760	510	199	109
1921–22 ..	775	441	172	107
1922–23 ..	793	475	185	113
1923–24 ..	810	491	191	111
1924–25 ..	826	547	213	126
1925–26 ..	831	515	201	114
1926–27 ..	841	527	205	116
1927–28 ..	838	536	209	118
1928–29 ..	830	536	209	117
1929–30 ..	803	482	187	105

(a) *Vide* explanatory remarks below.

The data for the preceding table are not complete. The numbers engaged in timber getting are not accurately known, so that the value of production on this account and the corresponding persons engaged are both left out of account. Further, the information about women engaged in primary production is unsatisfactory, so that males alone are counted in primary industries. In manufacturing, the numbers are converted into equivalent male workers on the basis of relative wages for male and female workers. The column headed " numbers engaged " is therefore, rather an index than the absolute number of individuals occupied in material production, but as an index, should be accurate enough to give a satisfactory index of production per person engaged.

§ 3. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

1. **The Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The " basic " or " living " wage is determined by industrial tribunals in Australia operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, and in the industrial legislation in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia provision is made for the tribunals appointed by the Acts to determine the minimum rates of wage to be paid to adult unskilled workers. In Victoria and Tasmania the provision for the declaration of a minimum rate of wage for the respective States is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in these two States, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review.

The Acts in force providing for the determination of a " basic " or " living " wage are as under :—

(*a*) Australia—*Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act* 1904–1930.
(*b*) New South Wales—*Industrial Arbitration Act* 1912–1929.
(*c*) Queensland—*Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act* 1929–1930.
(*d*) South Australia—*The Industrial Code* 1920–1925.
(*e*) Western Australia—*Industrial Arbitration Act* 1912–1930.

(ii.) *Commonwealth.*—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite, however, of these pronouncements and the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria) it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the " Harvester Judgment " on account of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works. The rate of wage declared in this case was 7s. per diem or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for " a family of about five." The constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

The judgment was delivered on 8th November 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (*d*) of the *Excise Tariff* 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain Excise Duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act

should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia " under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable." The President discussed at length the meaning of " fair and reasonable ", and stated " These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry ; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else ; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than " the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilized community."

The President in his judgment stated—" My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d. ; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day."

The basis of 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne has been varied by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration from time to time in accordance with the retail price index-numbers (food, groceries and rent—all houses) prepared by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics for the city or town in which the persons affected are employed, and the rate so obtained has been taken by the Court as the minimum rate of wage for an unskilled male worker.

The weekly wage rates at 1st August, 1931 for the various capital cities as so varied are as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sydney	4	1	0
Melbourne	3	13	0
Brisbane	3	7	0
Adelaide	3	9	0
Perth	3	13	0
Hobart	3	14	6
Six Capitals (Weighted Average) ..	3	15	0

The above amounts include the sum of 3s. per week known as the " Powers " three shillings, which was added in 1921 for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the " Harvester " standard. The weekly rates given in the above table are the " Harvester " equivalents plus the " Power's 3s." per week, but in accordance with the judgment of the Full Arbitration Court, such rates are subject to the ten per cent. reduction referred to in the following paragraphs.

The adequacy or otherwise of the amount allotted under the " Harvester " judgment has been the subject of much discussion, the author of the judgment himself urging on several subsequent occasions the need for its review. Frequent references as to the desirability of an investigation have been made by Judges of the Court, but it was not decided to hold an inquiry into the method of determining the basic wage until the latter portion of the year 1930.

On 15th August 1930, application was made by the Victorian and New South Wales Railways Commissioners for variation of current awards in the railway industry. The application sought variations in the basic wage as follows :—the abolition of the " Power's 3s." and the adoption of the

Statistician's " all items " purchasing power of money figures in lieu of the figures now in use (food, groceries and rent—all houses) for determining the basic wage and adjustments thereof. On 5th November, by direction of the Court, all organizations bound by awards of the Court were notified that the matters in issue affected the basic wage, and were advised that they could intervene in the hearing. Employers and employees selected representatives and the Full Arbitration Court held a Basic Wage Inquiry. The hearing commenced in November 1930, and concluded on 19th January 1931. Judgment was delivered on 22nd January. The Court refused to make any variations in the basic wage or in the present method of calculation thereof without further inquiry, but was forced to the conclusion, after considering the evidence relating to the decline in the national income, the reduction in spending power due to the cessation of loans, and the general depressed state of industry, that for a period of twelve months and thereafter until further order a general reduction of wages was necessary. With a few exceptions orders were made for variations of the awards covered by the applications before the Court by the reduction of all wage rates therein prescribed by ten per cent. for a period of twelve months and thereafter until further order, such variations to operate from 1st February, 1931. Additional applications for variation of awards were successful in obtaining the reduction, and rates of wage in practically all awards of the Court are subject to the ten per cent. reduction.

The Commonwealth Act provides that the " basic " wage is to be considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. The amended Act of 1930 provides that any alteration of the " basic " wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by the Court constituted as above-mentioned.

(iii) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard " living " wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the " living wage " at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. The Court, however, indicated to Industrial Boards that in view of the prosperous condition of industry they should fix the " living " wage at 8s. 6d. per day. Determinations of the " living " wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the " living " wage for adult male and female employees in the State. The first declaration by this body was made on 5th September 1918, when the rate for adult male employees in Sydney and suburbs was declared at £3 per week, while the rate for female employees was declared at £1 10s. on 17th December 1918. The Board of Trade made numerous declarations during the period 1918 to 1925, but ceased to function when the *Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act* 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales to exercise the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as previously declared by the Board of Trade. The latest declaration of the Commission was issued on 20th December

1929, when the rate for adult male workers was fixed at £4 2s. 6d. per week, and for adult female workers at £2 4s. 6d. per week. The latest adult male rate is determined on the family unit of a man, wife and one child. The President dissented from the other two Commissioners and presented a separate judgment. These pronouncements are published in the *New South Wales Industrial Gazette*, Vol. XXXVI., No. 6, and deal exhaustively with matters relating to basic wages. The "living" wage determined by the Industrial Commission in 1929 was not altered during the year 1930.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age is operative in New South Wales. The Family Endowment (Further Amendment) Act, No. 58 of 1929, provides that where the family income in the determined period did not exceed the amount for the same period of the "living" wage for an adult employee in force in such period and appropriate to the case, a certificate for endowment shall, subject to the Act, be issued for the amount of five shillings per week for each child (under fourteen years) except one in the family.

(iv.) *Queensland.*—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 28) of 1929, repealed the *Industrial Arbitration Act* 1916, and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(*a*) the basic wage, and (*b*) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the "standard" hours.) For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and the two Conciliation Commissioners.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the "basic wage" are—(*a*) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (*b*) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the basic wage or standard hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a minimum wage was gazetted on 24th February 1921, when the basic rates of wage in industries of average prosperity were determined to be—in Brisbane and Rockhampton, £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. per week for adult females; in Townsville, £4 15s. for adult males, and £2 8s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the basic or living wage. The basic rates for Brisbane were reduced by the Court as from 1st March 1922, to £4 per week for adult males, and £2 1s. per week for adult females. On 28th September 1925, these rates

were increased to £4 5s. per week and £2 3s. per week respectively. Two reductions in the basic wage were made in 1930. On 1st August the rate for adult male employees was reduced to £4 per week, and on 1st September to £3 17s. The rates for adult females at these dates were fixed at £2 1s. and £1 19s. 6d. per week respectively. A further reduction of the basic rates has been gazetted, the rates fixed as from 1st July 1931, being £3 14s. for adult males and £1 19s. for adult females. The declarations of the Industrial Court and the opinions of the members are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette.

(v.) *South Australia.*—The Industrial Code 1920, provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, make a determination declaring what shall be the "living" wage to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees, with full powers to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the living wage wherever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient that the question of the living wage should be re-opened and reviewed but no new determination shall be made by the Board until the expiration of a period of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister shall be President and shall preside at all meetings of the Board.

The first declaration of the "living" wage was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living" wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living" wage for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

According to the Industrial Acts 1920–25 "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but it is stated that the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 definitely decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the living wage is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The Board of Industry made declarations of "living wages" in 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1925. The rates declared in 1925 were—£4 5s. 6d. per week for adult male employees, and £1 19s. 6d. for adult female employees. These rates were not altered until the year 1930.

On 11th October 1930, the Board of Industry declared the "living wage" for adult male employees in the metropolitan area at 12s. 6d. per day, or £3 15s. per week, and on 22nd December 1930, the rate for adult female employees was declared at £1 15s. per week. The above rates are those

determined by the majority of the Board of Industry. In each case a minority report was issued. The reports of the Board of Industry are published in Bulletin No. 8 issued by the Department of Industry, South Australia. The Board of Industry, on 17th August 1931, declared the basic rate for adult male workers at £3 3s. per week.

(vi.) *Western Australia.*—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the *Industrial Arbitration Act* 1912–1930, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, and the third member, a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The *Industrial Arbitration Act* 1912–1925 provided that, before the 14th June in every year, the Court, of its own motion, shall determine and declare—(*a*) a "basic" wage, operating from 1st July of each year to be paid to male and female workers; and (*b*) wherever and whenever necessary differential basic rates to be paid in special or defined areas of the State.

The expression "basic wage" means a sum sufficient to enable the average worker to whom it applies to live in reasonable comfort, having regard to any domestic obligation to which such average worker would be ordinarily subject. The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations—a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is made in the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act of 1930 for quarterly adjustments of the basic wage.

The first declaration of the basic wage by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix same was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week. These rates remained in force until the declaration of 5th June 1929, when the rate for adult males was increased to £4 7s. per week, and for adult females to £2 7s. per week.

These rates applied to the State with the exception of the gold-fields area where the rates were £4 5s. for adult male employees, and £2 5s. 11d. for adult female employees. The Court of Arbitration on 10th June 1930, revised the basic rates and fixed the rates as from 1st July 1930, at £4 6s. per week for adult males and £2 6s. 5d. for adult females in the metropolitan area, and at £4 5s. and £2 5s. 11d. respectively in other parts of the State. On 3rd March 1931, these rates were reduced to £3 18s. and £2 2s. 2d. in the metropolitan area, and £3 17s. and £2 1s. 8d. in other parts of the State. The declarations of the basic wage and the remarks made by members of the Court concerning such declarations are published in the *Western Australian Industrial Gazette*. The declaration of 3rd March 1931, is published in *Gazette*, Vol. 11.

(vii.) The "basic" or "living" wage rates of State industrial tribunals are shown in the following table.

Basic Weekly Wage Rates fixed by State Industrial Tribunals.

State.	Basic Wage. Males.	Basic Wage. Females.	Date of Operation.	Family Unit (for Male Rate).
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
New South Wales ..	(*a*)4 2 6	2 4 6	20.12.29	Man, wife, and child
Victoria	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)
Queensland ..	3 14 0	1 19 0	1.7.31	Man, wife, and three children
South Australia ..	(*e*)3 3 0	(*f*)1 15 0	..	" "
Western Australia..	(*d*)3 18 0	2 2 2	3.3.31	(*c*)
Tasmania ..	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)	(*b*)

(*a*) Plus child allowances.
(*b*) None declared, but follow Federal rates to large extent.
(*c*) Although the family unit is not specifically defined in the legislation of this State the tribunal, appointed to determine the basic wage, has adopted the unit of man, wife and two children.
(*d*) Basic wage for country districts excepting the S.W. Land Division—males, £3 17s.; females £2 1s. 8d. S.W. Land Division (17th August 1931)—Males, £3 16s.; females, £2 1s.
(*e*) Judgment dated 17th August 1931.
(*f*) Judgment dated 22nd December 1930.

(viii.) *Royal Commission on Basic Wage*, 1920.—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire as to the actual cost of living at that time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man, wife and three children under fourteen years of age. The Commission made inquiries in each State and their report, issued in 1920, recommended the following amounts for the various capital cities, viz. :—

	£ s. d.
Sydney	5 17 1
Melbourne	5 16 6
Brisbane	5 6 2
Adelaide	5 16 1
Perth	5 13 11
Hobart	5 16 11
Six Capitals (Weighted Average) ..	5 15 8

The recommendations of this Commission were not given effect to owing to the marked advance of the amounts suggested over ruling rates* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

2. **Child Endowment.**—(i.) *General.*—The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age has become very prominent in Australia in recent years, and is actually in operation in certain instances.

(ii.) *The New South Wales Scheme.*—The earliest attempt made in Australia to institute the system was in New South Wales in 1919, when a Bill was introduced into the State Parliament to provide a flat basic wage for a man and wife, and an allowance of 5s. per week for each child, the latter rate to be reduced on a sliding scale and to cease automatically when the income reached an amount of £3 per week above the basic wage. The Bill was rejected, and the matter dropped until the Session of 1926–27, when Acts,

* The "Harvester" equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index number.

which have been amended during subsequent years, providing for the payment of child allowances were enacted. Prior to December 1929 the Act provided for (*a*) the declaration of a basic wage, and (*b*) the payment of an allowance of 5s. per week in respect of each dependent child, subject to the provision that child allowances would only be paid to the extent by which the total earnings of the worker and his family fell short of the sum represented by the *basic wage* plus child allowance at the rate of 5s. per week for each child. The amending Act, assented to on 23rd December 1929, provides that child endowment shall be 5s. per week for each child except one in the family. Payments of child allowances in New South Wales commenced to operate from 1st September 1927. The fund from which these payments are made is created by a levy on the total amount of wages paid by employers. The rate of tax to be collected by the Government from employers during 1930 is fixed at 1 per cent.

(iii.) *Commonwealth Public Service.*—The first payment of child endowment allowances in Australia was in connexion with the Commonwealth Public Service. When the Commonwealth Government decided to pay allowances, payment was made to officers at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependent child under fourteen years of age, with a limitation of £400 per annum by way of salary plus allowance. The payment of the allowance in the Service is now limited to a sum derived from salary and allowance of £500 per annum. Further details regarding the introduction and method of calculating the payments will be found in Labour Reports.

CHAPTER III.—EMPLOYMENT.

§ 1. Industrial Disputes.

1. **General.**—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lockouts) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for subsequent years have been given in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 20, while details of industrial disputes during the year 1930 are furnished in this Report.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1930.**—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1930 in industrial groups. A list of the 14 groups included in the classification will be found in the preface. Similar information for the years 1914 to 1929 was published in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 20.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1930 was 183, as compared with 259 during the previous year. In New South Wales 156 disputes occurred. Of this number 121 involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1930 totalled 1,511,241 for all disputes in Australia as compared with 4,461,478 working days lost during 1929. The estimated loss of wages was £1,592,342 in 1930 as compared with £4,569,305 for the year 1929.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1930.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
								£
	New South Wales—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	7	7	332	176	508	2,065	2,241
III.	Food, drink, etc.	9	106	4,445	205	4,650	62,930	60,292
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	38	76	114	1,716	1,040
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	121	151	38,908	962	39,870	1,327,298	1,397,838
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	2	2	71	14	85	660	761
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	81	147	228	25,992	27,291
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	1	1	40	..	40	80	70
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	1	90	600	300	900	18,000	22,900
XIV.	Miscellaneous	12	24	1,903	271	2,174	4,625	3,863
	Total	156	384	46,418	2,151	48,569	1,443,366	1,516,296
	Victoria—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	152	..	152	7,448	6,850
III.	Food, drink, etc.	2	2	65	23	88	128	220
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	1	1	128	..	128	128	130
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	40	..	40	40	28
	Total	5	5	385	23	408	7,744	7,228
	Queensland—							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	4	3	7	35	33
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	1	263	..	263	1,315	1,020
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	2	2	91	17	108	356	368
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	2	4	766	..	766	3,138	4,350
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	1	20	300	50	350	4,900	5,200
XIV.	Miscellaneous	3	3	137	..	137	137	88
	Total	10	31	1,561	70	1,631	9,881	11,059

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1930—*continued.*

Class.	Industrial Group.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
								£
	South Australia—							
I.	Wood, sawmill, timber, etc. ..	2	9	103	6	109	773	694
III.	Food, drink, etc.	1	3	125	..	125	750	660
X.	Other land transport ..	1	23	800	..	800	4,300	3,440
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	2	11	1,542	..	1,542	16,055	17,503
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	200	300	..	300	900	690
	Total	7	246	2,870	6	2,876	22,778	22,987
	Western Australia—							
V.	Books, printing, binding, etc...	1	1	18	..	18	72	76
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	1	25	450	..	450	27,000	34,302
	Total	2	26	468	..	468	27,072	34,378
	Tasmania—							
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining	2	2	230	..	230	360	370
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	40	..	40	40	24
	Total	3	3	270	..	270	400	394
	Australia—							
I.	Wood, sawmill, timber, etc...	2	9	103	6	109	773	694
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	9	9	488	179	667	9,548	9,124
III.	Food, drink, etc., manufacturing and distribution	13	112	4,898	228	5,126	65,123	62,192
V.	Books, printing, binding, etc.	1	1	18	..	18	72	76
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	2	2	38	76	114	1,716	1,040
VIII.	(*a*) Coal-mining ..	126	156	39,357	979	40,336	1,328,142	1,398,706
	(*b*) Other mining, quarries, etc.	4	6	837	14	851	3,798	5,111
IX.	Railway and tramway services	1	1	81	147	228	25,992	27,291
X.	Other land transport' ..	1	23	800	..	800	4,300	3,440
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	3	12	1,582	..	1,582	16,135	17,573
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. ..	3	135	1,350	350	1,700	49,900	62,402
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	200	300	..	300	900	690
XIV.	Miscellaneous	17	29	2,120	271	2,391	4,842	4,003
	Total—Australia (*a*) ..	183	695	51,972	2,250	54,222	1,511,241	1,592,342

(*a*) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at the end of the year 1929, and in respect of "Number" and "Establishments" are duplicated in the figures for 1930, viz. :—New South Wales—Six disputes; 35 establishments involved; workpeople involved—directly, 10,559; indirectly, 173; total, 10,732.

3. **Particulars of Principal Disputes in 1930.**—(i.) *General.*—The preceding tables show the number and effect of all disputes for the year 1930 classified according to Industrial Groups. The figures show large decreases compared with those of the previous year as regards number of working days and amount of wages lost. The number of disputes is the lowest since 1926. The tables show that of the total number of disputes (183) which occurred in 1930, no less than 130 were in connexion with the mining industry, and of these, 123 occurred in New South Wales. The total loss in wages through all disputes in Australia was £1,592,342. The loss through 121 disputes in the coal-mining industry in New South Wales was £1,397,838, or 88 per cent. of the total loss in wages for Australia.

(ii.) *Details regarding Principal Disputes.*—The principal disputes which occurred during the year 1930 involved slaughtermen and other employees at the abattoirs, Homebush Bay, and other slaughtering establishments near Sydney; engineers at the State Electricity Commission's works at Yallourn, Victoria; wharf labourers, carters and timber workers at Port Adelaide, South Australia; and shearers in certain districts of New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia. The dispute concerning the rates of

pay at the collieries in the northern district of New South Wales, which commenced in March 1929, was current at the end of the year and did not terminate until June 1930. Brief particulars regarding the above-mentioned dislocations of work are given hereunder.

The most serious dislocation of work recorded during recent years in Australia commenced on 2nd March 1929, when the principal collieries on the northern coal-fields of New South Wales closed down owing to the refusal of the employees to accept reduced rates of wages. For some time prior to the closing down of the collieries, the coal position in Australia had become very serious, owing to depression in trade and the loss of oversea markets. Exports of Australian coal declined considerably during 1928, as compared with previous years, and oversea competition became so keen that coal was being imported into Australia at a lower price than locally produced coal could be sold. The New South Wales colliery proprietors were unable to quote at a profit against oversea coal, and attributed their inability to do so to the high cost of production locally.

The Premier of New South Wales proposed that the owners of the collieries should forgo 1s. per ton of their profits, on condition that the State Government reduced railway freights and other Government charges by the equivalent of 2s. per ton, and mineworkers undertook to accept reduced rates for hewing and in other wages, equivalent to 1s. per ton. These reductions represented 4s. per ton, and were considered to be the minimum that would be required to stimulate local consumption. In order to compete successfully with oversea coal it was estimated that a reduction of at least 5s. per ton was necessary, and the Commonwealth Government undertook to help the industry by paying a Commonwealth bounty of 1s. per ton upon all coal shipped out of New South Wales.

These proposals were submitted to the Coal and Shale Employees' Federation, and were rejected by the officials on the ground that the employees were not prepared to accept any reduction in rates of wages. The owners thereupon withdrew their offer to forgo 1s. per ton of their profits.

Trade continued to decline, and the proprietors of the principal collieries on the Northern field decided to close the pits, owing to the lack of orders and to their inability to compete at a profit against the oversea coal. The closing of the majority of the Northern collieries, numbering about 30 with 10,000 employees, occurred on 2nd March 1929, after a fortnight's notice of the owners' intentions had been given to the employees.

On 31st May, a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into and make recommendations and report upon—(*a*) the present position of the coal industry, including the production, carriage, export, distribution, and sale of coal; (*b*) the causes which have led to the present position of the coal industry. The Commission met during June, and issued an interim report in September. The final report of the Commission was presented to the State Parliament on 29th March 1930, and contained recommendations for the re-organization of the coal industry in the interests of the industry and of the general community. The findings of the Commission were not accepted by the parties involved in the current dispute.

During November, the State Government decided to open one of the collieries, and invited applications from men prepared to accept work at reduced rates of pay. The mine was opened in December, and serious disturbances occurred. Coal miners in Victoria ceased work for a short period in sympathy with the colliery employees in New South Wales.

Notwithstanding special efforts by the members of the Commonwealth and State Governments to effect a settlement of the dispute, the collieries remained idle. Numerous conferences were convened, including one under the provisions of the Industrial Peace Act, and two under Section 16 (*a*) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. The dispute continued until June 1930. The actual result of the industrial conflict was the reduction of rates of pay in the whole of the Newcastle area by 12½ per cent. on hewing rates and 6d. per day on daily rates, a reduction by the New South Wales Government of railway freightage and shipping charges on coal produced in Newcastle area by 1s. 6d. per ton, and a reduction by certain shipping companies of 3d. per ton on coal exported to other States. The selling price of coal was reduced by 3s. 3d. per ton at port of shipment or 1s. 9d. per ton at the mines as from 2nd June 1930. The rates of pay for contract workers and day workers in the Southern and Western colliery districts of New South Wales, in Tasmania, and at the State-owned mine at Wonthaggi, Victoria, were reduced to the same extent by an award of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration made on 15th August 1930.

Two disputes involving slaughtermen and other employees at abattoirs in the County of Cumberland, New South Wales, occurred during 1930; the first dislocation occurred in June and was of short duration, while the second commenced on 8th November and work was not resumed until 8th December. The cause of the stoppage of work in June was the enforcement by the employers of the terms of the 48 Hours Act which increased the number of hours of work per week from 44 to 48, with a consequential reduction in the rates of pay for pieceworkers. After negotiations, the representatives of the parties involved were successful in terminating the dispute, the workpeople resuming work on the terms of the 48 Hours Act. The stoppage of work in November was an attempt by the employees to anticipate the proposal of the Government to reduce the working hours per week from 48 to 44 hours, and to obtain an increase in the piece-rates for mutton slaughtermen. Meat supplies were curtailed. Stock sales and the meat export trade were affected. Master butchers undertook the work of killing stock and supplies of meat were received in Sydney from the country. Notwithstanding repeated efforts to settle the dispute the men were idle for over four weeks. After a conference with the Minister for Labour and Industry the parties involved agreed to refer the strike issues to the Industrial Commission, which decided that the men should resume work on the terms of the award made in September 1930, and on work being resumed all questions involved in the dispute to be determined by the Commission at an early date. (The hours of labour per week provided for in the award mentioned were 48 hours.)

The dispute at the State Electricity Commission's works at Yallourn, Victoria, commenced on 9th May, when the engineers stopped work as a protest against certain provisions in the Metal Trades award of the Commonwealth Court. Prior to the award coming into force engineers were receiving a camp and isolation allowance of 6s. 6d. per week. This allowance was not included in the award. An increase in the number of hours of work for certain engineers from 44 to 48 per week was a contributing cause of the dispute. Although the engineers ceased work, the management succeeded in keeping the works going, as the majority of the employees were not involved in the dispute. Several conferences between the parties were held during the currency of the dispute but finality was not reached until the 4th July, when the strike was declared off. Work was resumed on the 7th July, on the terms of the award, on the understanding that the Commission would consider the possibility of making an agreement.

The employment of volunteer labour on the wharves at Port Adelaide, South Australia, was the cause of a serious dislocation of work during August and September. Waterside workers and carters and drivers were mainly affected, but other sections of workers involved in the dispute were seamen, timber workers and employees in flour mills. Coastal shipping was affected, several vessels being held up. Volunteer labourers were subjected to attacks and disturbances occurred. The State Government passed legislation for the preservation of the public safety, and shortly afterwards the trouble ended, the workpeople involved returning to work.

Shearing was delayed in three States during the year. In New South Wales and Western Australia the disputes arose out of the refusal of the shearers to abide by the variation of the award of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration which provided for a reduction in rates of pay. In New South Wales the rate for shearing was reduced from 41s. to 32s. 6d. per 100 sheep, and in Western Australia from 40s. to 31s. 6d. per 100 sheep. The award of the State Industrial Court in Queensland reduced rates of wage by 10 per cent., the rate per 100 sheep being reduced from 40s. to 36s. These rates were not satisfactory to the shearers and in each State members of the Union refused to sign on at the reduced terms although officially the awards had been accepted by the union. At some sheds the places of those who refused to work were filled by others who were prepared to accept the terms of the award, while shearing at other sheds was deferred pending the termination of the dispute. In New South Wales the dispute commenced on 15th July and continued until 12th August when the men decided to accept employment on the terms of the award as varied. In Queensland shearing was delayed at certain sheds in November, and disputes arose in various localities until February, 1931, when the men decided to accept the terms of the State award which came into operation on 1st December. In Western Australia the dispute commenced in August and continued until 14th November, when the representatives of the employees, after a meeting, recommended a return to work on the terms of the award.

4. **Industrial Disputes, 1926 to 1930.**—(i.) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1926 to 1930, and the aggregate for the whole period :—

Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Year.	Manufacturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscellaneous. (Groups XII to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			Coal-Mining.	Other Mining.			
			NUMBER OF DISPUTES.				
1926 ..	60	17	218	9	29	27	360
1927 ..	60	19	271	14	41	36	441
1928 ..	28	6	190	4	42	17	287
1929 ..	29	8	193	11	9	9	259
1930 ..	27	..	126	4	5	21	183
1926–30 ..	204	50	998	42	126	110	1,530

Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1926 to 1930—*continued.*

Year.	Manufacturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscellaneous. (Groups XII to XIV.)	All Groups.
			Coal-Mining.	Other Mining.			
NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.							
1926 ..	12,408	924	91,735	1,372	2,901	3,694	113,034
1927 ..	11,368	9,690	130,911	1,855	42,487	4,446	200,757
1928 ..	3,304	290	72,267	237	17,992	2,332	96,422
1929 ..	25,364	732	68,751	8,015	1,286	456	104,604
1930 ..	6,034	..	40,336	851	2,610	4,391	54,222
1926–30 ..	58,478	11,636	404,000	12,330	67,276	15,319	569,039
NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.							
1926 ..	271,049	10,015	945,105	5,665	36,693	41,734	1,310,261
1927 ..	168,432	342,649	848,823	19,956	304,586	29,135	1,713,581
1928 ..	71,803	3,419	315,121	1,124	367,271	18,540	777,278
1929 ..	1,896,091	4,456	2,496,028	31,748	30,237	2,918	4,461,478
1930 ..	77,232	..	1,328,142	3,798	46,427	55,642	1,511,241
1926–30 ..	2,484,607	360,539	5,933,219	62,291	785,214	147,969	9,773,839
ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1926 ..	249,712	7,721	1,093,637	4,474	27,306	32,963	1,415,813
1927 ..	138,418	293,792	995,891	13,689	210,214	24,692	1,676,696
1928 ..	61,160	3,225	377,586	1,069	317,337	14,982	775,359
1929 ..	1,680,629	5,060	2,810,623	36,468	33,971	2,554	4,569,305
1930 ..	73,126	..	1,398,706	5,111	48,304	67,095	1,592,342
1926–30 ..	2,203,045	309,798	6,676,443	60,811	637,132	142,286	10,029,515

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII.). During the year 1930 these disputes represented 69 per cent. of the total during the year, as compared with 75 per cent. during 1929.

During the past five years working days lost through dislocations of work, involving workpeople engaged in coal-mining numbered 5,933,219 representing 61 per cent. of the total loss of working days during the period. The majority of disputes causing this high percentage of loss involved employees in the coal-mining districts of New South Wales. In making any comparison as to the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class, it should be noted that the number of workers

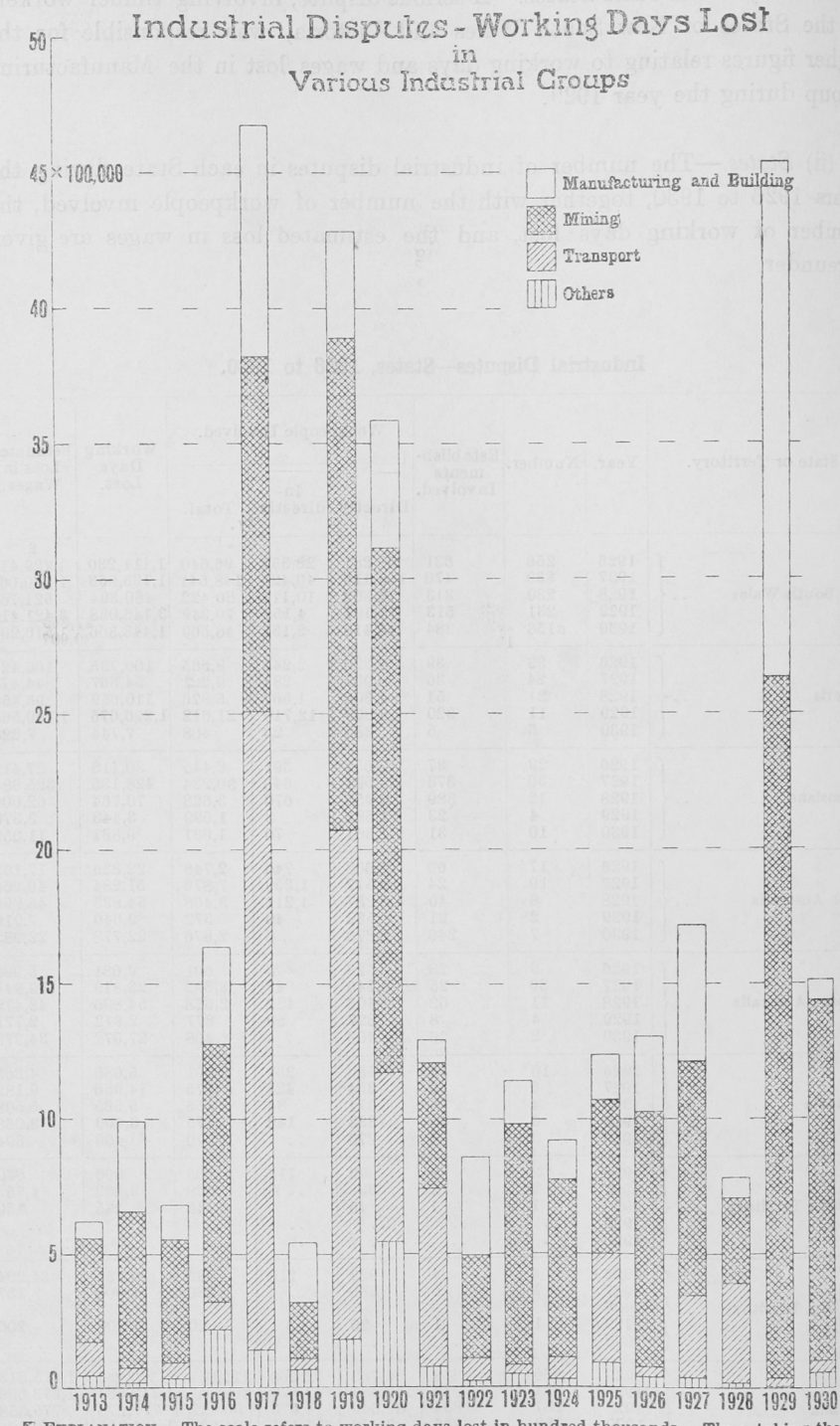
engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any of the other States. A serious dispute, involving timber workers in the States of New South Wales and Victoria, was responsible for the higher figures relating to working days and wages lost in the Manufacturing Group during the year 1929.

(ii) *States.*—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1926 to 1930, together with the number of workpeople involved, the number of working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given hereunder.

Industrial Disputes—States, 1926 to 1930.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
								£
New South Wales ..	1926	256	631	68,281	28,359	96,640	1,111,230	1,229,410
	1927	339	470	108,116	40,425	148,541	1,133,963	1,230,060
	1928	230	313	70,303	10,119	80,422	480,394	521,768
	1929	231	513	75,197	4,152	79,349	3,146,038	3,421,412
	1930	*a*156	384	46,418	2,151	48,569	1,443,366	1,516,296
Victoria	1926	33	39	6,320	2,245	8,565	100,735	106,423
	1927	24	36	8,937	284	9,221	54,367	44,470
	1928	21	51	4,309	1,567	5,876	110,659	96,454
	1929	11	320	8,893	12,719	21,612	1,296,676	1,130,565
	1930	5	5	385	23	408	7,744	7,228
Queensland	1926	29	37	2,054	391	2,445	30,118	27,412
	1927	30	376	29,594	640	30,234	428,135	325,884
	1928	12	329	2,958	670	3,628	70,764	62,008
	1929	4	23	1,691	8	1,699	3,443	3,379
	1930	10	31	1,561	70	1,631	9,881	11,059
South Australia ..	1926	17	60	2,008	740	2,748	22,836	17,133
	1927	19	24	6,517	1,359	7,876	51,284	40,266
	1928	8	40	2,257	1,211	3,468	54,835	45,999
	1929	2	21	532	40	572	9,040	7,910
	1930	7	246	2,870	6	2,876	22,778	22,987
Western Australia ..	1926	9	28	523	78	601	9,081	5,998
	1927	20	25	3,345	47	3,392	23,819	19,944
	1928	11	62	2,106	422	2,528	54,896	43,472
	1929	4	8	827	50	877	2,672	2,771
	1930	2	26	468	..	468	27,072	34,378
Tasmania	1926	10	12	660	231	891	5,080	4,363
	1927	6	6	354	421	775	14,950	9,182
	1928	4	8	371	84	455	5,595	5,508
	1929	6	40	333	142	475	3,409	3,068
	1930	3	3	270	..	270	400	394
Northern Territory ..	1926	2	2	93	112	205	996	870
	1927	2	2	338	..	338	5,163	4,753
	1928	1	1	45	..	45	135	150
	1929	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1930	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fed. Cap. Territory ..	1926	4	4	829	110	939	30,185	24,204
	1927	1	5	380	..	380	1,900	2,137
	1928	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1929	1	1	20	..	20	200	200
	1930	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	1926	360	813	80,768	32,266	113,034	1,310,261	1,415,813
	1927	441	944	157,581	43,176	200,757	1,713,581	1,676,696
	1928	287	804	82,349	14,073	96,422	777,278	775,358
	1929	259	926	87,493	17,111	104,604	4,461,478	4,569,305
	1930	*a*183	695	51,972	2,250	54,222	1,511,241	1,592,342

(*a*) *See* footnote page 78.



EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1917, and comparing the shaded and blank sections with the scale, it will be observed that about 870,000 working days were lost in Manufacturing and Building, over 1,300,000 in Mining, over 2,300,000 in Transport, and about 150,000 in other industries.

5. **Duration of Disputes.**—(i.) *General.*—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the period which expires between the cessation and resumption of work, is for statistical purposes computed in working days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, except in those cases where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted:—(*a*) One day or less; (*b*) two days and more than one day; (*c*) three days and more than two days; (*d*) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week); (*e*) one week and under two weeks; (*f*) two weeks and under four weeks; (*g*) four weeks and under eight weeks; and (*h*) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1926 *to* 1930.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1926 to 1930 are given in the table appended:—

Duration of Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
							£
1 day and less	1926	132	33,979	9,039	43,018	43,018	50,923
	1927	162	48,827	5,826	54,653	54,613	64,895
	1928	119	41,892	3,511	45,403	44,781	52,576
	1929	127	41,299	828	42,127	47,869	55,514
	1930	81	21,031	335	21,366	20,907	22,975
2 days and more than 1 day	1926	61	12,011	2,297	14,308	28,636	33,094
	1927	54	14,820	1,060	15,880	30,153	33,859
	1928	29	11,038	458	11,496	22,992	27,056
	1929	31	7,942	528	8,470	15,697	16,631
	1930	27	5,315	298	5,613	11,055	12,422
3 days and more than 2 days	1926	30	3,598	1,224	4,822	14,431	15,423
	1927	42	12,718	2,236	14,954	41,903	44,822
	1928	22	4,412	28	4,440	13,225	15,365
	1929	21	5,217	300	5,517	16,327	18,865
	1930	14	2,454	18	2,472	7,398	7,760
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (6 days)	1926	25	6,045	1,344	7,389	31,925	31,049
	1927	41	10,370	1,175	11,545	52,708	57,751
	1928	18	2,490	235	2,725	11,372	12,756
	1929	31	7,721	799	8,520	34,049	38,949
	1930	15	3,233	105	3,338	14,193	16,774
1 week and less than 2 weeks	1926	47	7,343	1,283	8,626	62,451	63,894
	1927	60	54,722	3,676	58,398	444,500	380,956
	1928	33	4,891	657	5,548	50,642	52,982
	1929	23	5,540	201	5,741	47,784	51,893
	1930	20	2,897	492	3,389	25,018	25,245
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1926	34	4,741	1,878	6,619	106,505	106,189
	1927	49	6,162	17,209	23,371	305,469	304,653
	1928	33	6,659	1,777	8,436	132,366	150,634
	1929	11	1,506	239	1,745	27,752	28,454
	1930	12	2,895	419	3,314	47,444	53,860
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1926	20	11,336	14,484	25,820	793,621	883,672
	1927	25	9,018	11,870	20,888	658,908	664,597
	1928	19	9,300	3,427	12,727	322,445	290,830
	1929	5	154	37	191	5,262	5,812
	1930	6	2,668	360	3,028	73,514	70,453
8 weeks and over	1926	11	1,715	717	2,432	229,674	231,569
	1927	8	944	124	1,068	125,327	125,163
	1928	14	1,667	3,980	5,647	179,455	173,160
	1929	10	18,114	14,179	32,293	4,266,738	4,353,187
	1930	8	11,479	223	11,702	1,311,712	1,382,853
Total	1926	360	80,768	32,266	113,034	1,310,261	1,415,813
	1927	441	157,581	43,176	200,757	1,713,581	1,676,696
	1928	287	82,349	14,073	96,422	777,278	775,359
	1929	259	87,493	17,111	104,604	4,461,478	4,569,305
	1930	183	51,972	2,250	54,222	1,511,241	1,592,342

6. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i.) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, viz.:—(1) Wages; (2) hours of labour; (3) trade unionism; (4) employment of particular classes or persons; (5) working conditions; (6) sympathy; and (7) other causes* The first five groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii.) *Causes in Australia, 1913 to 1930.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes classified according to causes for Australia for the years specified.

Causes of Industrial Disputes.—Australia, 1913, and 1924 to 1930.

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
1. **Wages**—								
(*a*) For increase ..	42	44	33	23	24	8	8	..
(*b*) Against decrease ..	4	7	5	5	4	3	6	9
(*c*) Other wage questions	31	95	99	67	66	39	45	44
2. **Hours of Labour**								
(*a*) For reduction ..	3	2	4	13	14	2	6	4
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	7	4	6	2	4	2	2	..
3. **Trade Unionism**—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists ..	8	6	8	5	12	6	3	..
(*b*) Other union questions	5	31	27	22	24	11	12	20
4. **Employment of particular classes or persons** ..	44	137	118	108	152	105	87	48
5. **Working conditions** ..	51	111	106	46	72	48	31	27
6. **Sympathetic**	5	8	16	8	5	9	6	11
7. **Other causes**	8	59	77	61	64	54	53	20
Total	208	504	499	360	441	287	259	183
NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
1. **Wages**—								
(*a*) For increase ..	8,633	8,312	23,443	17,046	7,316	2,775	1,414	..
(*b*) Against decrease ..	563	1,113	1,123	1,275	300	1,317	10,532	12,824
(*c*) Other wage questions	7,160	30,585	31,387	18,883	20,297	17,057	8,742	12,686
2. **Hours of Labour**—								
(*a*) For reduction ..	460	1,328	462	9,730	7,813	61	21,646	4,334
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	1,819	1,172	2,668	290	288	1,005	2,067	..
3. **Trade Unionism**—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists ..	5,370	1,005	1,592	125	4,432	193	103	..
(*b*) Other union questions	1,418	12,078	10,957	3,790	25,848	2,311	4,367	4,160
4. **Employment of particular classes or persons** ..	11,370	39,839	36,075	25,165	55,174	35,379	22,933	7,751
5. **Working conditions** ..	10,785	36,630	35,034	12,889	29,766	14,169	4,672	4,276
6. **Sympathetic**	947	436	5,328	3,499	1,484	6,123	11,604	4,010
7. **Other causes**	1,758	19,948	28,677	20,342	48,039	16,032	16,524	4,181
Total	50,283	152,446	176,746	113,034	200,757	96,422	104,604	54,222

* The heading, "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following:—(*a*) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery; (*b*) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity.

Causes of Industrial Disputes.—Australia 1913, and 1924 to 1930—*continued.*

Causes of Disputes.	1913.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
	NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.							
1. **Wages**—								
(*a*) For increase ..	100,069	120,317	209,356	580,183	150,691	6,548	7,433	..
(*b*) Against decrease ..	9,438	13,553	24,352	2,573	2,578	3,824	2,332,157	1,227,808
(*c*) Other wage questions	78,183	111,613	154,169	82,898	83,831	80,755	47,261	113,102
2. **Hours of Labour**—								
(*a*) For reduction ..	2,774	130,440	12,816	280,152	305,782	725	1,887,196	63,583
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours	15,111	42,441	16,179	290	4,487	2,667	3,183	..
3. **Trade Unionism**—								
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists ..	91,002	2,555	14,784	1,623	82,156	2,137	424	..
(*b*) Other union questions	32,388	40,046	105,195	15,607	204,802	8,900	49,924	50,225
4. **Employment of particular classes or persons** ..	191,723	253,779	214,738	114,917	310,425	423,555	78,492	24,683
5. **Working conditions** ..	73,562	124,041	150,325	123,390	303,788	98,852	8,545	8,551
6. **Sympathetic**	24,066	926	41,046	38,381	3,573	106,358	23,482	17,648
7. **Other causes**	5,212	78,935	185,616	70,247	261,468	42,957	23,381	5,641
Total ..	623,528	918,646	1,128,570	1,310,261	1,713,581	777,278	4,461,478	1,511,241

The main causes of industrial disputes are "wage" questions, "working conditions," and "employment of particular classes or persons."

The number of disputes concerning "wages" in 1930 was 53, representing 29 per cent. of the total disputes. Under the heading "Employment of particular classes or persons" are stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who were considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over "Employment" questions in 1930 numbered 48, or 26 per cent. of the total, and over "Working Conditions" 27, or 15 per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings numbered 128, or 70 per cent. of the total dislocations during the year.

7. **Results of Industrial Disputes.**—(i.) *General.*—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute. They come within one or other of the following four classes, viz.:—

(*a*) In favour of workpeople; (*b*) In favour of employer; (*c*) Compromise; (*d*) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result:—(*a*) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers; (*b*) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand; (*c*) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers; (*d*) Indefinite, when, for example, employees stop work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of "Sympathetic" disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally "Indefinite" except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii.) *Results in each State*, 1930.—The following table shows the industrial disputes during 1930, classified according to results.

Industrial Disputes—States, Results, 1930.[a]

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	33	101	18	1	3,929	40,600	2,865	520	12,915	1,304,820	16,229	13,000
Victoria ..	..	2	3	..	..	168	240	..	..	168	7,576	..
Queensland ..	2	6	1	..	74	1,087	120	..	322	3,459	1,200	..
South Australia	..	6	..	..	..	2,859	..	..	..	22,557	..	..
Western Australia	..	1	1	..	..	450	18	..	..	27,000	72	..
Tasmania ..	1	1	1	..	130	40	100	..	260	40	100	..
N. Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
F. C. Territory..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total, Aust.*a b*	36	117	24	1	4,133	45,204	3,343	520	13,497	1,358,044	25,177	13,000

(*a*) The following are the particulars of disputes which were incomplete at the 31st December, 1930, which should be added to the above figures to effect a balance with those published in the preceding tables :—

State.	Number.	No. of Estabs.	Workpeople.	Working Days Lost.	Wages.
					£
New South Wales	3	3	655	96,402	101,949
Queensland	1	20	350	4,900	5,200
South Australia	1	1	17	221	214
Total	5	24	1,022	101,523	107,363

b See note to table on page 78.

(iii) *Australia*, 1930.—The following table shows the number of disputes number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost, in disputes in Australia during the year 1930, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, Australia, 1930.[a]

Classified according to Causes and Results.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
Wages—												
(*a*) For increase	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(*b*) Against decrease ..	..	7	..	..	..	12,340	..	..	..	1,199,190	..	..
(*c*) Other wage questions ..	5	32	5	1	451	10,873	362	520	3,728	16,309	8,365	13,000
Hours of Labour—												
(*a*) For reduction	2	2	..	..	134	4,200	..	..	2,583	61,000	..	..
(*b*) Other disputes *re* hours ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trade Unionism—												
(*a*) Against employment of non-unionists	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(*b*) Other union questions ..	11	8	1	..	1,298	2,542	320	..	3,012	44,973	2,240	..
Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..	10	28	10	..	1,030	5,019	1,702	..	2,384	9,902	12,397	..
Working conditions ..	6	15	4	..	1,028	2,869	321	..	1,598	4,827	921	..
Sympathetic ..	..	11	..	..	..	4,010	..	..	..	17,648	..	..
Other Causes ..	2	14	4	..	192	3,351	638	..	192	4,195	1,254	..
Total *a b* ..	36	117	24	1	4,133	45,204	3,343	520	13,497	1,358,044	25,177	13,000

a See note to table on page 78. *b See* note *a* to table above.

(iv) *Australia, 1926 to 1930.*—(*b*)The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the five years 1926–1930, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes—Results, Australia, 1926 to 1930.(*b*)

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1926 ..	72	243	30	11	11,631	85,115	14,220	1,623	73,313	891,093	257,004	21,486
1927 ..	88	307	35	5	28,005	152,429	18,571	995	207,009	1,198,163	294,102	10,285
1928 ..	39	228	14	1	7,362	85,306	2,814	178	55,757	674,076	16,309	178
1929 ..	70	135	44	5	11,200	69,859	7,150	15,304	38,943	4,315,760	43,174	26,302
1930(*a*) ..	36	117	24	1	4,133	45,204	3,343	520	13,497	1,358,044	25,177	13,000

(*a*) *See* note on page 78. (*b*) *See* note to first table on page 88.

The figures for the year 1929 in the table above and in the following table include the number of workpeople involved and the working days lost in 1929 in the dispute on the Northern Coalfield of New South Wales which commenced in March, 1929, and terminated in June, 1930.

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in the earlier years, but latterly the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1930 was 66. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

8. **Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

(i) By negotiation.
(ii) Under State Industrial Act.
(iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
(iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
(v) By closing down establishment permanently.
(vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and mainly relates to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *Australia*, 1913 and 1924 *to* 1930.(*a*)—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder :—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1913 to 1930.(*a*)

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929	1930.(*b*)
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	119	264	209	166	229	138	130	134
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	17	20	24	16	18	8	8	3
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	19	11	12	8	13	10	3	6
By reference to Board or Court	22	7	2	10	19	8	1	2
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	4	12	13	13	19	6	6	..
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	13	5	4	8	5	10	7	9
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	2	1	..	10	3	3	1
By other methods ..	13	179	226	135	122	99	96	23
Total	208	500	491	356	435	282	254	*b*178
NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	70,895	75,961	44,995	94,070	37,708	32,393	40,804
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	3,172	4,448	12,767	17,072	5,839	1,242	19,161	196
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	6,505	2,519	1,781	936	3,763	2,009	487	3,476
By reference to Board or Court	12,774	2,952	208	684	4,314	2,975	56	184
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	659	4,262	3,251	4,332	33,517	1,497	511	..
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	658	130	160	245	533	11,047	5,411	2,940
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	170	170	28	..	1,104	266	144	40
By other methods ..	2,988	66,370	81,158	44,325	56,860	38,916	45,350	5,560
Total	50,283	151,746	175,314	112,589	200,000	95,660	103,513	53,200

(*a*) *See* note page 78. (*b*) *See* note page 88.

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1913 to 1930—*continued.*

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	2924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
				NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.				
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	373,155	470,110	417,158	700,968	273,254	2,417,171	1,289,487
By intervention, or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	26,335	103,005	320,046	549,427	100,148	36,937	1,279,258	2,893
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	187,871	41,900	17,650	11,281	80,815	38,878	5,261	56,648
By reference to Board or Court	221,769	142,939	4,338	8,744	60,236	29,533	56	1,272
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	2,105	74,376	67,272	134,841	305,303	8,962	1,882	..
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	14,139	3,040	1,163	2,865	9,706	266,369	610,686	34,612
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	20,400	1,250	1,932	..	30,289	750	9,861	80
By other methods ..	56,509	150,526	180,665	118,580	422,094	96,637	100,004	24,726
Total	623,528	890,191	1,063,176	1,242,896	1,709,559	746,320	4,424,179	1,409,718

In all years shown with the exception of the year 1925 direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. During the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 53 in 1923, and 71 in 1915, the proportion in 1930 amounting to 75 per cent. In connexion with the comparatively large numbers of disputes classified as settled "By other methods," a large number of stoppages of work occur each year, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

9. **Interstate Disputes.**—Disputes which extend beyond the limits of a single State, while necessarily extensive, are comparatively few in number.

These disputes rarely start on an interstate basis, but develop into such through the interdependence of trade union organizations and the submission to the principle that the objectives of one section of unionists must not be prejudiced by another section.

During the year 1930 there were no disputes which could be considered as interstate disputes.

Particulars of interstate disputes during past years have been published in Labour Report, No. 20, and in previous issues.

§ 2. Fluctuations in Employment.

1. **General.**—The collection by the Bureau of information relating to unemployment was initiated during the year 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars of unemployment for that year, and for information also relating to previous years, as far back as 1891. The Bureau has to thank these officials for the kindly readiness with which they supplied available data.

Since that year information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the Official Year Book, Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics, and the Labour Reports.

The particulars in the following tables are based on information furnished by the secretaries of trade unions, and the number of members of unions regularly reporting has now reached over 430,000. Unemployment returns are not collected from unions whose members are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, shearers, etc.). Very few unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are in close touch with the members and with the state of trade in their particular industries. In many cases unemployment registers are kept, and employers apply to the union officials when labour is required. Provision is also made in the rules for members out of work to pay reduced subscriptions. It may, therefore, be claimed that percentage results based on trade union information fairly show the general trend of unemployment.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since the 1st January 1913, the yearly figures quoted representing the average of the four quarters.

2. **Unemployment.**—(i) *States*, 1930.—In addition to the qualifications referred to above, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States. The results may, however, be taken as representing fairly well labour conditions generally. The figures in the following tables do not include persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs :—

Unemployment—States, 1930.

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
New South Wales	112	189,569	41,319	21.7
Victoria	79	122,307	22,448	18.3
Queensland	47	54,922	5,847	10.7
South Australia	59	34,648	8,050	23.3
Western Australia	62	27,689	5,339	19.2
Tasmania	36	9,239	1,764	19.1
Australia	395	438,874	84,767	19.3

(ii) *Australia*, 1891 to 1931 (3rd Quarter).—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1931 (3rd Quarter) in respect of :—

(*a*) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available.

(*b*) The number of members of such unions.

(*c*) The number of members unemployed, and

(*d*) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment.—Australia—1891 to 1931 (3rd Quarter).

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 end of year ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 ,, ,, ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 ,, ,, ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1907 ,, ,, ..	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908 ,, ,, ..	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909 ,, ,, ..	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910 ,, ,, ..	109	32,995	1,857	5.6
1911 ,, ,, ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912 ,, ,, ..	464	224,023	12,441	5.6
1913 (average for year) ..	462	246,068	16,054	6.5
1914 ,, ,, ..	459	268,938	22,344	8.3
1915 ,, ,, ..	470	276,215	25,663	9.3
1916 ,, ,, ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1917 ,, ,, ..	450	286,811	20,334	7.1
1918 ,, ,, ..	478	299,793	17,536	5.8
1919 ,, ,, ..	464	310,145	20,507	6.6
1920 ,, ,, ..	447	341,967	22,105	6.5
1921 ,, ,, ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1922 ,, ,, ..	445	380,998	35,238	9.3
1923 ,, ,, ..	436	376,557	26,672	7.1
1924 ,, ,, ..	413	397,613	35,507	8.9
1925 ,, ,, ..	380	391,380	34,620	8.8
1926 ,, ,, ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1927 ,, ,, ..	375	445,985	31,032	7.0
1928 ,, ,, ..	375	423,422	45,669	10.8
1929 ,, ,, ..	382	424,093	47,359	11.1
1930 ,, ,, ..	395	438,874	84,767	19.3
1929 1st Quarter ..	375	420,756	39,159	9.3
2nd ,, ..	376	409,503	40,996	10.0
3rd ,, ..	388	433,388	52,480	12.1
4th ,, ..	390	432,727	56,801	13.1
1930 1st ,, ..	392	432,464	63,144	14.6
2nd ,, ..	394	435,239	80,595	18.5
3rd ,, ..	396	439,971	90,379	20.5
4th ,, ..	399	447,822	104,951	23.4
1931 1st ,, ..	397	440,234	113,614	25.8
2nd ,, ..	397	429,687	118,424	27.6
3rd ,, ..	396	426,603	120,694	28.3

3. **Unemployment by Industries.**—(i) *Australia*, 1930.—The following table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries in which employment is either unusually stable or exceptionally casual, such as railways, shipping, agricultural, pastoral, etc., and domestic, hotels, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns, owing to the impossibility of securing the necessary information from the trade unions. Particulars are not, therefore, shown separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous."

Unemployment in Industrial Groups—Australia, 1930.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
Manufacturing:				
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	16,397	4,014	24.1
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	64	81,093	17,088	21.1
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	53	36,922	5,116	13.9
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	23	39,638	7,221	18.2
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	13	20,183	1,472	7.3
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	63	40,214	12,866	32.0
VII. Building	46	54,736	12,904	23.6
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	19	22,981	4,288	17.6
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway services ..	12	16,315	2,494	14.9
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	86	110,395	17,304	15.7
All Groups	395	438,874	84,767	19.3

(ii) *Australia*, 1912, *and Quarterly*, 1929 *to* 1931.—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed during fourth quarter of 1929 to the third quarter of 1931. The percentage of unemployed at the end of 1912 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment.—Australia, Percentages by Industries, 1912, 1929, to 1931 (3rd Quarter).

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	1912. End of Year.	1929.	1930.				1931.		
		4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	3·7	15.5	20.6	25.2	21.3	29.4	31.1	33.3	34.0
II. Engineering, Metal Works ..	7·4	15.4	16.7	20.5	21.9	25.2	27.7	30.2	31.2
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc...	7·3	12.8	9.3	14.2	15.4	16.8	17.4	20.7	20.5
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc...	6·3	10.0	12.5	16.7	21.0	22.5	25.9	26.7	27.4
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	2·8	3.3	3.8	6.8	8.4	10.1	12.6	14.4	15.0
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	6·9	22.1	25.5	31.0	32.8	38.7	42.3	44.3	45.0
VII. Building	5·5	14.3	17.5	23.3	25.7	27.9	30.4	32.6	33.5
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	5·6	8.6	8.7	12.2	20.8	28.8	32.4	32.7	33.7
X. Other Land Transport ..	1·1	9.0	9.9	14.6	16.7	18.5	21.9	24.0	25.5
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	5·4	11.6	12.9	15.1	16 9	17.7	19.3	19.9	20.5
AUSTRALIA	5·6	13.1	14.6	18.5	20.5	23.4	25.8	27.6	28.3

4. **Unemployment**—*States.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1919 were published in Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 11, and in the Quarterly Summary of Statistics. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed quarterly during the years 1920 to 1931 (3rd Quarter) :—

Unemployment.—States, Percentages Quarterly, 1920 to 1931 (3rd Quarter).

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1920 3rd Quarter ..	5.2	5.3	13.4	5.9	3.2	3.1	6.2
1921 3rd " ..	12.3	10.2	13.5	8.5	9.2	15.7	11.4
1922 3rd " ..	11.9	7.4	8.6	6.6	11.1	6.7	9.6
1923 3rd " ..	9.3	6.4	6.6	4.6	5.8	3.9	7.4
1924 3rd " ..	13.5	7.8	5.3	5.4	6.1	4.2	9.5
1925 3rd " ..	7.8	9.9	5.4	5.1	6.9	9.3	7.9
1926 3rd " ..	7.4	7.3	8.3	6.6	9.2	15.0	7.6
1927 1st " ..	7.0	4.9	6.5	3.7	5.3	6.2	5.9
2nd " ..	6.8	6.8	5.5	5.6	4.4	6.8	6.4
3rd " ..	5.3	8.1	5.5	8.9	7.1	11.2	6.7
4th " ..	9.1	9.8	6.2	10.7	4.9	10.1	8.9
1928 1st " ..	11.8	10.6	7.7	13.1	5.2	13.3	10.7
2nd " ..	10.9	12.2	7.1	16.1	9.5	10.7	11.2
3rd " ..	11.9	11.2	6.8	17.6	8.8	8.2	11.4
4th " ..	10.6	9.6	6.4	13.3	9.2	10.0	9.9
1929 1st " ..	9.7	8.6	7.1	13.2	8.5	8.7	9.3
2nd " ..	10.0	9.4	7.6	14.1	9.8	14.6	10.0
3rd " ..	12.4	13.0	6.2	17.8	9.6	15.0	12.1
4th " ..	13.8	13.5	7.4	17.8	11.8	15.1	13.1
1930 1st " ..	16.3	14.1	8.4	18.6	15.1	7.5	14.6
2nd " ..	21.0	17.6	10.1	21.4	18.7	18.9	18.5
3rd " ..	23.3	19.4	11.6	24.7	18.4	23.4	20.5
4th " ..	26.3	21.9	12.5	28.5	24.6	26.5	23.4
1931 1st " ..	29.2	24.4	14.1	30.6	26.1	26.6	25.8
2nd " ..	30.7	26.5	16.1	32.4	27.1	27.3	27.6
3rd " ..	31.6	26.8	16.9	33.3	27.9	27.3	28.3

5. **Causes of Unemployment.**—In previous issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(*a*) lack of work ; (*b*) sickness and accident ; and (*c*) other causes. The returns from trade unions during the past six years show that while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentages of members unemployed through sickness and accident, and through other causes, have remained uniform at 0.7 per cent. and 0.2 per cent., respectively.

6. **Seasonal Employment in Australia.**—An investigation concerning the extent of seasonal employment in Australia was made during 1928. The State Statisticians were requested to furnish brief reports regarding the industries and callings in their respective States subject to seasonal fluctuations, and from the reports received from these officials, supplemented by information from other sources, particulars were published in Labour Report, No. 19. The result of inquiries concerning the organization of public works in connexion with unemployment was also published in Report, No. 19.

7. **Special Legislation for Relief of Unemployment.**—(i) *General.*—The position in regard to unemployment in Australia became so serious during 1930 that the usual methods of providing funds for relief work and sustenance were found to be inadequate. The failure to obtain new money from loans

and the general depression in industry and business, due mainly to the decline in the price of primary products, brought about an economic crisis in all States of the Commonwealth. The number of persons thrown out of work increased rapidly during the early portion of the year, with little prospect of the conditions improving during the immediate future. The Governments realized that special action had to be taken to provide additional funds to relieve the distress caused by continued unemployment, as the available money was not sufficient to meet the position.

The steps taken by the Governments to provide money for the relief of unemployment, and the legislation enacted during the year for that purpose are briefly reviewed in the following statement :—

(ii) *Commonwealth.*—The Commonwealth Government made available the sum of £1,000,000 for the relief of unemployment in the States. This amount was included in the annual estimate of expenditure which was presented to Parliament and appropriated by Act No. 55 of 1930.

(iii) *New South Wales.*—Legislation enacted in this State during 1930 was as follows :—

Prevention and Relief of Unemployment Act, No. 34 of 1930, assented to 23rd June 1930.

Unemployment Relief (Tax) Act, No. 25 of 1930, assented to 16th June 1930.

Prevention and Relief of Unemployment (Amendment) Act, No. 50 of 1930, assented to 22nd December 1930.

Unemployment Relief (Tax) Amendment Act, No. 52 of 1930, assented to 22nd December 1930.

Act No. 34 of 1930.—An Act to provide for the establishment of a Council for the prevention and relief of unemployment ; for the better distribution of work among persons temporarily out of employment ; for the absorption of persons temporarily out of employment in public works or in private business ; for the training of persons for whom no employment can be found in the industries for which they have been trained ; to provide for an Unemployment Relief Fund, and for the assessment and collection of Unemployment Relief Tax ; to amend the *Industrial Arbitration Act* 1912, and certain other Acts ; and for purposes connected therewith.

The Council shall consist of eight members. The Colonial Treasurer, the Minister for Labour and Industry and the Minister for Local Government shall be *ex officio* members of the Council. The Governor shall appoint five other members. (Amended *vide* Act No. 50 of 1930).

The Council shall consider means for the prevention and relief of unemployment and may formulate schemes for the absorption in any public works or private enterprises of persons out of employment ; investigate and approve of schemes for the relief of unemployment, including the distribution of work amongst employees in any industry and the training of persons for whom no work can be found in the industries in which they have been employed ; recommend expenditure of money from the Unemployment Fund, advance money by way of loan, either with or without interest, to any Shire or Municipal Council or any public body for the purpose of carrying on any work approved by the Council or to any employer for the purpose of increasing production in any industry, for assisting in any business approved by the Council, and upon taking any security for repayment as the Council may approve or as is prescribed ; enter into agreements with Shire and Municipal Councils or any public body for the purpose of carrying

out any scheme for the relief of unemployment approved by the Council; appoint committees of the Council; make reports to the Governor on the activities of the Council, and do any other work relating to the prevention and relief of unemployment as is prescribed.

The Governor may appoint committees consisting of representatives of employers and employees in any trade or industry for the purpose of considering the conditions of labour in such trade or industry and the means of increasing the efficiency and productivity thereof.

Where the Governor, on the advice of the Council or of the Minister, declares by notification in the *Gazette* a work to be work provided for the relief of unemployment, all wages, hours, and mode, terms and conditions of employment of any person employed upon such work shall be such as the Minister may direct. The provisions of this section shall take effect notwithstanding the conditions of employment, whether statutory or otherwise, or of any award or industrial agreement.

Shire and Municipal Councils shall furnish information relating to possibilities of employment or the number of unemployed, and as to the financial resources of the Shire or Municipal Council.

To the credit of the Unemployed Relief Fund shall be paid—(*a*) the proceeds of the Unemployment Relief Tax, and (*b*) such sums as Parliament may appropriate from the Consolidated Revenue Fund or any other account; (*c*) all advances made by the Colonial Treasurer to the fund to be approved by the Governor. The fund may be applied in making payments and advances to the Council for the purposes of enabling it to carry out any work or scheme for the prevention or relief of unemployment, and in repayments of advances for cost of administration of the Act, and of the collection of the Unemployment Relief Tax.

Part IV. relates to the Unemployment Relief Tax, and provides for the incidence of the tax; the incomes on which the tax shall be levied; the exemptions from the tax, penalties for contravention of the provisions of the Act. This part of the Act shall be read with the *Income Tax (Management) Act* 1928, and amendments.

Part V. provides for the making of Regulations not inconsistent with the Act, prescribing all matters which are required or permitted to be prescribed or which are necessary for carrying out or giving effect to the Act.

Act No. 50 *of* 1930.—This measure amended Act No. 34 of 1930. The Council for the prevention and relief of unemployment was reconstituted. It was provided that the members of the Council other than the Colonial Treasurer, the Minister for Labour and Industry, and the Minister for Local Government, shall cease to hold office as such members. Under the principal Act, persons whose total income from all sources did not exceed eighty pounds per annum were exempt. The amended Act omitted the word "eighty" and inserted in lieu thereof the words "one hundred". Incomes from employment at a rate of less than thirty shillings per week were exempt from tax prior to 1st January, 1931: the amending Act provides that incomes from employment at a rate of less than two pounds per week, or the equivalent hourly or daily rate so far as payments made after the 1st January, 1931, are concerned are exempt from tax.

Act No. 25 *of* 1930.—An Act to impose an Unemployment Relief Tax, to declare the rates at which such tax is to be levied, assessed, collected and paid. This Act shall be read with the *Prevention and Relief of Unemployment Act* 1930.

Levy and Rate of Unemployment Relief Tax—

(*a*) Threepence in the £1 of the net assessable income derived by any person other than a company during the income year ending 30th June, 1930;

(*b*) Threepence in the £1 of the net assessable income derived by every company during the income year ending 30th June, 1930;

(*c*) Threepence in the £1 of the income from employment derived by every person other than a company during the income year commencing on 1st July, 1930.

All persons and all companies in New South Wales who received income during the year ended 30th June, 1930, were required to fill in the ordinary income tax return. Returns, however, were not required from—

(*a*) Any person whose income received from all sources during the year ended 30th June, 1930, did not exceed £80.

(*b*) Any person whose income derived solely from salary or wages did not exceed £250 during the year ended 30th June, 1930, and from whose salary or wages his employer is deducting the Unemployment Relief Tax.

Regulations under the Act provided for employers to keep records of payments and allowances made by him to his employees; for employers to affix adhesive Unemployment Relief Tax Stamps upon the records of payments made by them to their employees; for the cancellation of such stamps; and for penalties of omission to cancel stamps, or removal or sale of such stamps.

Act No. 52 *of* 1930.—This Act amended Act No. 25 of 1930. The rate of tax of the net assessable income derived by any person other than a company during the income year ended 30th June, 1930, was increased to seven and one-half pence in the £1. The rate of tax on the net assessable income of every company was increased to seven and one-half pence in the £1. On incomes derived by persons from employment, the rate of tax from 1st July, 1930, to 31st December, 1930, was fixed at threepence in the £1, and from 1st January, 1931, at one shilling in the £1.

(iv) *Victoria.*—The Unemployment Relief Act, No. 3866 of 1930, dated 2nd June, provided moneys for the relief of unemployment, and The Stamps (Unemployment) Relief Act No. 3868 of 1930, of the same date imposed stamp duties on receipts for certain salaries or wages for the purpose of providing moneys for the relief of unemployment.

The Acts set out the income, salaries and wages on which the tax or stamp duties shall be charged, levied, collected, paid, &c.

Act No. 3866 provides that—Every person whose taxable income—(*a*) derived or received from any source other than salary or wages—is not less than £52 and not more then £312; or (*b*) whether derived or received from salary or wages or any other source or all or some of them—is more than £312 shall be liable to pay the tax.

For the purposes of the Act every person whose gross income (whether from personal exertion, or the produce of property, or both) amounted to £50 or upwards was required to furnish a return of such income for year ending 30th June 1930. Companies were not required to furnish returns of income in its own behalf, or be liable to pay the tax under this Act.

The tax shall be payable on each £1 of the taxable income and shall be calculated at the rates per £100 as follows :—

(*a*) Ten shillings on amount of taxable income not less than £52 and not more than £312, if derived from sources other than salary or wages ;

(*b*) Amount of taxable income from salary or wages or any other sources—

	Rates.
Exceeding £312 but not exceeding £500	Ten shillings
Exceeding £500 but not exceeding £750	Twelve shillings
Exceeding £750 but not exceeding £1,000	Fourteen shillings
Exceeding £1,000 but not exceeding £1,200	Sixteen shillings

rising thereafter by 2s. for each rise of £200 in amount of taxable income to 26s. for £2,000 and upwards (Schedule amended —*Vide* Act No. 3948.)

All sums collected shall be paid into the consolidated revenue and an amount equal thereto shall be paid to the credit of an account called The Unemployment Relief Fund. Out of this fund the costs and expenses of administration, refunds, and such sums as the Governor-in-Council determines for providing works for the relief of unemployment and for providing sustenance for persons out of employment shall be paid.

No sustenance shall be receivable or be received by—(*a*) any person who has not been a bona fide resident in Victoria for a period of six months prior to the coming into operation of the Act ; or (*b*) any person who is in receipt of any pension (other than a pension under the law of the Commonwealth as to war pensions) income or payment at the rate of £52 a year or upwards.

Any person refusing to accept employment offered to him without reasonable excuse is debarred from employment or sustenance under the Act.

No discrimination shall be made between persons who are members of trade unions and other persons in the employment on works being carried out and in the distribution of sustenance under the Act.

All sustenance shall be distributed through such charitable organizations and benevolent societies as are approved in writing by the Charities Board of Victoria.

The Stamps (Unemployment) Relief Act No. 3868 of 1930 provides that any person whose income for the year ending 30th June, 1930, is £312 or less and consists wholly of salary or wages and is not taxed under any Act providing for unemployment relief tax shall be liable to pay stamp duty at the rate specified on the whole of his salary or wages received on or after the commencement of the Act.

A stamp duty of one penny with respect to each payment of salary or wages of not less than one pound and not more than Six pounds earned in any week, on each £1 of the amount of salary or wages so paid and on every fractional part of £1 not being less than 10s. is provided. (Rates amended—*vide* Act No. 3948).

Stamp duties under the Act shall be denoted by adhesive stamps referred to as Unemployment Relief Duty Stamps. The Act provides that receipts are to be given for salaries and wages and the persons to whom such receipts are given shall retain such receipts for a period of at least twelve months. Penalties are provided for failure or neglect to give receipts and for contravention of Act.

The Unemployment Relief Amendment Act No. 3948 which amended the Unemployment Relief Act No. 3866 of 1930 and the Stamps (Unemployment Relief) Act, No. 3868 of 1930, was assented to on the 31st December, 1930. The amended Act was retrospective in operation as from 2nd June, 1930. Provision was made for the furnishing of returns on the basis of income for the year ending 30th June, 1931, and the sections relating to taxable incomes and the application of the Public Account and the Unemployment Relief Fund were amended.

A new section was inserted providing that preference in the employment on works carried out under the Act shall be given to persons who are married or to persons on whose earnings other persons are ordinarily dependent for support.

Provision was made for the application of the Fund for the settlement of unemployed persons on available Crown land, &c.

A new schedule of rates of tax on taxable incomes was brought into operation.

The tax shall be payable on each £1 of the taxable income and shall be calculated as follows :—

Amount of Taxable Income.	Rate per £100.
Not less than £52 but not amounting to £104	Ten shillings.
Not less than £104 but not exceeding £312	Twenty-two shillings and sixpence.
Exceeding £312 but not exceeding £500..	Twenty-two shillings and sixpence.
Exceeding £500 but not exceeding £750..	Twenty-seven shillings.
Exceeding £750 but not exceeding £1,000	Thirty-one shillings and sixpence.
Exceeding £1,000 but not exceeding £1,200	Thirty-six shillings.

rising thereafter by 4/6 for each rise of £200 in amount of taxable income to 58/6 for incomes of £2,000 and upwards.

The rates of unemployment stamp tax in Act No. 3868 were amended and the following rates were substituted :—(i) With respect to each payment of salary or wages of not less than £1 and not amounting to £2 earned in any week—a stamp duty of one penny on each £1 and on every fractional part of £1 not being less than 10s. ; (2) with respect to each payment of salary or wages of not less than £2 and not more than £6 earned in any week—a stamp duty of one penny on each 6s. of the amount of salary or wages so paid and on every fractional part of 6s. These stamp duties were charged on and from the 13th January, 1931, until 31st August, 1931.

The Governor-in-Council may appoint a Board to be called the Unemployment Relief Works Board, which shall consist of six members of whom two shall be responsible Ministers of the Crown ; one representative of rural industries ; one of commerce ; one of employees ; and one a member of the Charities Board of Victoria.

The Board shall consider and recommend methods for the prevention and relief of unemployment, and exercise any other powers prescribed by order of the Governor in Council relating thereto.

The Act provides that the daily rate of pay of, and the work allotted to, persons employed on any works for the relief of unemployment shall in all cases be as recommended by the Board, but shall not be greater than—(*a*) In the case of work outside the metropolis the lowest monetary equivalent

of the index figure published by the Commonwealth Statistician relating to the cost of living and representing the weighted average for four towns in Victoria (excluding the capital city) in respect of the quarter ended 30th September, 1930; (*b*) in the case of work inside the metropolis the lowest monetary equivalent of the index figure representing the weighted average for the capital city for quarter ended 30th September, 1930. Provided that such rates respectively shall subsequently be subject to adjustment on each succeeding first day of February, May, August and November in accordance with the like respective figures.

The Act provides that the Board in allotting work shall not recommend that any person employed in the metropolis shall be employed for more than three days' work in any one week or more than four days in any one week if employed outside the metropolis.

The Minister may be authorized to arrange for the use and occupation of or the lease of any suitable lands or buildings for the purpose of establishing and maintaining camps or homes for the reception and accommodation of unemployed workers who are unmarried. Overseers and officers for such camps or homes may be appointed and regulations made with respect to admission of unemployed workers, accommodation, sanitation, etc.

(v) *Queensland.*—The Income (Unemployment Relief) Tax Act of 1930 was designed to alleviate unemployment; to encourage employment; to impose an Income (Unemployment Relief) Tax; to provide for the assessment and collection of such tax, and for other purposes. This Act was assented to on the 29th July.

The Director of Labour shall administer and carry out Part III. of the Act:—Income from Employment—Levy and Collection of Tax. Incomes from employment shall be subject to tax. The following incomes shall not be subject to the tax:—Invalid and old-age pensions; payments pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Acts for death or accident; war pensions and war gratuities; allowances under the State Children Act, and charitable allowances paid to natural and foster-mothers by the Home Department; unemployment sustenance payments under the Unemployed Workers' Insurance Acts; and allowances in the nature of rations granted as Government relief.

The Income (Unemployed Relief) Tax is at the following rate:—The sum of one penny for every six shillings and eightpence (or where there is a fractional part of six shillings and eightpence, one penny for every such fractional part of six shillings and eightpence over and above the sum of three shillings and fourpence) of the income from employment of every person. The first levy of the tax commenced and took effect in respect of income from employment from 1st August, 1930.

Income from employment means income earned in or derived in or from whatever source in Queensland and consisting of earnings, salary, wages, etc., or consideration whatsoever (whether in cash or kind) paid, given or rendered, whether at once or from time to time or at intervals of time, for any employment, service, work, or labour rendered or done by any person in the capacity of an employee.

Every employer shall collect from his employees such tax in relation to his employees, and every employee shall pay to his employer the amount of the tax. Such collections and payments of tax shall be made at the time of such payments of such income from employment. The employer shall remit tax so collected to the Director of Labour. Every employer shall keep such record as is prescribed of the income from employment paid by him to

his employees and shall affix to such record the prescribed adhesive unemployment relief tax stamps upon such payments and cancel such stamps as prescribed. Penalties are provided in the Act for persons failing to pay tax, and for employers who fail to furnish returns, for persons making false statements relating to wages and for evasion of the full tax, etc.

The Commissioner of Taxes administers Part IV. of the Act, relating to the levy and collection of tax on income other than income from employment.

Returns of income are required from every person whose gross income (whether from personal exertion or income from the produce of property or both) for the income year ending 30th June, 1930, amounted to one pound or upwards (excluding income from employment). Such taxable income shall be subject to a tax of one penny for every six shillings and eightpence (or, where there is a fractional part of six shillings and eightpence, one penny for every such fractional part of six shillings and eightpence over and above the sum of three shillings and fourpence). It was provided that for the purposes of the first assessment the taxable income shall be only eleven-twelfths of such taxable income, and tax shall be charged and paid on such eleven-twelfths of such taxable income. Incomes of companies are taxed at the same rate and according to the same conditions. On and from 1st August, 1930, persons paying rent and/or interest amounting to one pound or upwards to any person residing beyond Queensland or which is required to be remitted beyond Queensland shall, before paying such interest and/or rent, pay tax to the Commissioner at the rate previously mentioned.

The Act provides that Commonwealth officers shall furnish returns of income and be liable to the tax, provided that the taxation of such officers shall in no case be at a higher rate or to a greater extent than is imposed on other salaries of the same amount earned in the State.

A fund called the Unemployment Relief Fund shall be created at the Treasury. All sums charged, levied, collected, and paid under the Act shall be paid into the fund. Out of the fund shall be paid—costs and expenses of administration; refunds or moneys overpaid; portion to be applied in and for relief of unemployment and/or in aid of the distress among female workers; grants or loans to any public authority, including a local authority or joint authority, &c., for the purposes of creating employment and the concomitant relief of unemployment.

The Governor in Council may appoint a Board to be called the Central Relief Board consisting of such persons as he may approve for the purpose of making inquiries and investigations and assisting the Minister in the operations of the Act. Local Relief Boards may be appointed in any local authority or other prescribed area. The duties of the Central Relief Board shall be to report from time to time as to the best means of regulating employment or for alleviating unemployment; to aid in the dissemination of information as to the labour market generally, and to perform and undertake such powers and duties as may be delegated by the Minister.

The Unemployed Workers Insurance and Income (Unemployment Relief) Tax Acts Amendment Act, No. 38 of 1930, assented to on the 24th December, 1930, amends The Unemployed Workers' Insurance Acts 1922 to 1927, and the Income (Unemployment Relief) Tax Act of 1930.

Section five of the Unemployed Workers' Insurance Act was amended by inserting the following words:—If at any time the Governor in Council is satisfied that the moneys to the credit of the fund or from time to time payable to the credit thereof are or are likely to be or become insufficient

to meet the sustenance allowances and other expenditures under this Act payable out of the fund the Governor in Council may—(*a*) authorize the granting of a loan to the fund by the Treasury in such amount and subject to such terms, provisions, etc., as to repayment, together with interest (if any), or otherwise as may be deemed necessary; or (*b*) by Order in Council published in the *Gazette* give such directions (including, if deemed necessary, an increase in the rates of contribution during a specified period) as will in his judgment ensure the sufficiency of the fund for the purposes aforesaid; and all such directions shall be obeyed by all persons concerned.

Sub-section 4 of Section 14 was amended by the addition of a new paragraph as follows:—Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Act, no person shall be entitled to receive sustenance allowance whose earnings during the twelve months preceding the date of his application for sustenance allowance exceeded the sum of £220. Should this provision cause unreasonable distress or hardship the Council may, in its discretion, grant sustenance allowance to such amount as the Council considers desirable.

Sections in the Income (Unemployment Relief) Tax Act of 1930 relating to exemptions and taxable incomes were amended.

(vi) *South Australia.*—The *Unemployment Relief Council Act* 1930, No. 1965, assented to on the 12th November, 1930, establishes a Council for the purpose of devising and carrying into execution proposals for the relief of unemployment, and for purposes incidental thereto.

The Council shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor.

The powers and duties of the Council are—to make any arrangements which it thinks proper for assisting persons to obtain employment or for providing employment or for raising money for the relief of unemployed persons or for providing unemployed persons with the necessities of life; to expend in such manner as it thinks will assist unemployed persons to the greatest extent, such moneys as are paid to it by the Treasurer of the State pursuant to any Act providing for the expenditure of money for the relief or benefit of unemployed persons; to take such steps as it thinks fit to co-ordinate the activities of persons, associations, and Government departments affording relief or help to unemployed persons, or carrying on any activity for the benefit of unemployed persons, and to prevent the duplication of such activities.

The Act provides that no relief shall be afforded to any person by the Council or by the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board unless—(*a*) the said person carries out some work if directed by the Council or Board in return for such relief; or the said person is certified by an officer as being a person who by reason of age, sex, or any physical infirmity, or other sufficient reason is unable to carry out any work, or the Council or Board is unable to provide work for such person.

The moneys required for the purposes of this Act shall be paid out of the moneys voted by Parliament for those purposes.

(vii) *Western Australia.*—Special legislation relating to the relief of unemployment was not enacted during 1930 in this State. The State Government made funds available for the relief of unemployment, and special funds were created by the Lord Mayor of Perth for the purpose of providing sustenance to needy unemployed.

(viii) *Tasmania.*—The Unemployed (Assistance to Primary Producers) Relief Act No. 2, 1930, dated 2nd August, authorizes the raising of a sum

of £20,000 for assistance to primary producers to enable them to provide work for unemployed persons in certain cases. The Act shall be administered by the Board of Management of the Agricultural Bank.

The Board may make an advance, by way of loan, out of moneys at its disposal to any person who satisfies the Board that he—

(*a*) is engaged in any primary industry in the State ;

(*b*) requires such advance to enable him to effect permanent improvements to the satisfaction of the Board to the property upon which such primary industry is carried on ; and

(*c*) is employing, or proposes to employ, therein persons eligible for employment.

Any person shall be eligible for employment in accordance with the provisions of the Act if at the date of his engagement his name is, and for not less than ten days immediately preceding that date has been, recorded in good faith in the books of the Industrial Department or of the council clerk of any municipality as that of a person unemployed.

Every advance shall be applied in accordance with the Act in or towards effecting such improvements, and (with certain specified exceptions) the full amount shall be used in payment of wages to persons employed in accordance with the provisions laid down.

Every advance shall be made upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall in each case determine, and shall be repayable within such period, not exceeding ten years, and such terms and conditions may provide for the remuneration to be payable to any person to be employed by means of such advance. The Board may require that persons obtaining advances shall effect a policy of insurance under the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act on employees engaged by means of such advance. Interest at the rate of five per centum per annum shall be payable half-yearly on every advance.

The Board may require and take such security for the repayment of advances and may sue for and recover any moneys advanced under the Act.

The Treasurer may raise, borrow and receive for the purposes of the Act any sum or sums of money not exceeding in the whole the sum of £20,000.

The Unemployed (Assistance to Primary Producers) Relief Act 1930 was amended by Act No. 63 of 1930, dated 23rd December.

In the principal Act the Board had power to permit the application of a proportion, not exceeding one-fifth, of any advance to be applied in payment for materials or hire of plant for any improvements. In the amended Act the words " not exceeding one-fifth " are deleted, and the words " as the Board may think necessary " are inserted. An extension of the date for receiving applications for advances is provided in the later Act.

By the amended Act the Treasurer is empowered to raise, borrow and receive any sum or sums of money not exceeding £50,000.

The Unemployment Relief Act, No. 3 of 1930, dated 2nd August, provides for the relief of unemployment in certain cases and the appropriation of a sum of £20,000 from the Consolidated Revenue for that purpose.

The Act empowers the Minister to expend any sum or sums of money during the financial year ending 30th June, 1931, not exceeding in the whole the sum of £20,000, for or towards the execution of any public work approved by the Minister, or in such other manner as the Minister may think best for the purpose of affording assistance to unemployed persons.

In any case in which the circumstances so require, the Minister may apply any moneys at his disposal under the Act in providing sustenance for any unemployed person or to the dependents of any such person.

Out of the said sum of £20,000, the Minister shall allocate and apply any sum not exceeding £5,000 for the purpose of assisting primary producers in relieving unemployment by providing work for unemployed persons in carrying out permanent improvements to or upon the holdings of such primary producers.

All moneys required for the purposes of the Act shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue.

§ 3. State Free Employment Bureaux.

1. **General.**—As there is considerable diversity in the scope of the several State Employment Bureaux, as well as in the methods adopted for registration of applicants for employment, information in regard to these Bureaux obtained from reports received from the officers in charge in the respective States was published in Labour Report, No. 19. Particulars were given of the methods adopted in the several State offices concerning system of registration of applicants for employment, selection of applicants for vacant positions, systems in force for granting sustenance and food relief, and other information concerning the functions of the Bureaux. In Labour Report No. 20, particulars relating to the organization of the State Free Labour Bureaux in the several States were given.

The work in connexion with the State Employment Bureaux increased to an exceptional extent during 1930 owing to the abnormal amount of unemployment. All States were affected, and applications for registration for work and sustenance were received in increasing numbers during each succeeding quarter of the year. The peak number of applications was received during the first quarter of 1931. Skilled and semi-skilled workers, who in the past had not availed themselves of the services of the Bureaux, registered for relief work, as they found that there was little prospect of securing work in their usual occupations. Special legislation during the year for the relief of unemployment provided that registration at the Bureaux was essential before relief work or sustenance could be obtained, and this was mainly responsible for the increased registrations for employment, but prior to the enactment of such legislation in June and later months the work of the Bureaux was increasing through applications for registration.

2. **Applications and Positions Filled.**—The following table shows the number of applications for employment and from employers received at the State Free Labour Bureaux in the various States during the years 1926 to 1930. The numbers of positions to which workpeople were sent are also shown. The figures relating to applications for employment received during the year do not necessarily represent the number of individuals applying for employment since the same persons may apply more than once during the twelve months:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Summary, Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Year.	Applications for Employment received.	Applications from Employers received. (a)	Positions filled.
1926	192,109	67,397	84,278
1927	218,543	70,367	76,235
1928	287,834	79,197	78,274
1929	310,752	72,721	71,806
1930	668,506	143,219	154,923

(a) Exclusive of Tasmania.

3. **Details for each State.**—The following table shows the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the year 1930 :—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Summary, States, 1930.

State.	Applications for Employment received.	Applications from Employers received.	Positions filled.
New South Wales	250,128	101,620	106,218
Victoria	107,856	11,814	11,507
Queensland	122,792	16,898	16,898
South Australia	143,331	3,571	3,571
Western Australia	32,782	9,316	8,747
Tasmania	11,617	(*a*)	7,982
Total	668,506	143,219(*b*)	154,923

(*a*) Particulars not available. (*b*) Exclusive of Tasmania.

4. **Details in Industrial Groups.**—The next table gives details for the years 1929 and 1930 in industrial groups :—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Summary, Industrial Groups, Australia, 1929 and 1930.

Industrial Group.	1929.			1930.		
	Applications for Employment received.	Applications from Employers received. (*a*)	Positions filled.	Applications for Employment received.	Applications from Employers received. (*a*)	Positions filled.
I. Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber Workers, etc.	2,038	304	329	6,098	520	504
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	10,777	905	954	21,475	394	461
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	8,701	2,090	1,957	8,588	1,827	1,851
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	5,738	690	684	4,325	787	797
V. Books, Printing, etc.	642	133	97	1,066	54	53
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	1,107	142	101	4,230	389	381
VII. Building ..	24,442	2,550	2,840	49,236	4,770	5,086
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	1,434	198	211	2,449	530	536
IX. Rail and Tram Services ..	63,222	5,158	5,150	105,577	5,346	5,299
X. Other Land Transport ..	2,053	661	661	9,164	3,373	3,584
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc ..	159	48	42	250	167	150
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, etc.	20,316	10,333	9,978	25,540	9,426	9,833
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	11,615	10,828	8,286	17,487	8,362	7,068
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous ..	158,508	38,681	40,516	413,021	107,274	119,325
Total ..	310,752	72,721	71,806	668,506	143,219	154,923

(*a*) Exclusive of Tasmania.

As pointed out previously, the work of the Bureaux in the various States is not on uniform lines. For example, in States in which Government Departments obtain workers from the Labour Bureaux, the numbers of workers are larger in comparison than in the same groups in other States. It should be noted also that special provisions for female workers are not made in all States.

The majority of the workers sent to employment by State Employment Bureaux during 1930 were unskilled men, the number of general labourers and miscellaneous workers (Group XIV.) being 119,325, or 77 per cent., of the total number provided with work. Domestic workers (Group XIII.), and pastoral and agricultural labourers (Group XII.), were sent to employment in comparatively large numbers during the year. The number of skilled workers for whom positions were found was not large. As a general rule skilled workers do not register at the Bureaux until they have exhausted the usual avenues for obtaining employment in their regular trade. The great bulk of the workers who apply are unskilled, although skilled workers when they find that there is no employment in their own trade register for unskilled work. Compared with the previous year there was a large increase in 1930 in the number of registrations for employment from work people in the manufacturing and building groups.

5. **Quarterly Applications for Employment.**—The following table shows the number of applications for employment registered in each State during each of the quarters specified. A marked increase in the number of registrations occurred during 1930 and 1931. During the four quarters of 1929 the number of applications for employment remained fairly constant, but in the succeeding quarters the depressed state of trade and industry was shown by the increasing numbers of workpeople registering at the Bureaux for employment and sustenance. The number of registrations increased during each quarter of 1930 and reached its peak during the first quarter of 1931. In the second quarter the number registered declined in all States except South Australia.

State Free Employment Bureaux—Registrations for Employment—States.

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	All States.
1929.							
1st Quarter ..	18,668	8,668	25,630	16,541	3,381	554	73,442
2nd ,, ..	18,918	11,187	21,494	17,733	3,610	968	73,910
3rd ,, ..	17,901	10,731	27,200	19,801	7,131	929	83,693
4th ,, ..	17,137	8,955	28,233	20,574	4,006	802	79,707
1930.							
1st ,, ..	27,715	10,180	29,120	22,009	5,263	1,111	95,398
2nd ,, ..	51,769	31,085	29,697	29,101	7,926	1,785	151,363
3rd ,, ..	82,575	32,506	28,310	43,389	14,364	5,178	206,322
4th ,, ..	88,069	34,085	35,665	48,832	5,229	3,543	215,423
1931.							
1st ,, ..	84,242	36,344	39,957	62,269	6,008	3,727	232,547
2nd ,, ..	70,344	34,589	32,037	69,144	5,068	2,927	214,109

§ 4. Industrial Accidents.

1. **Source of Information.**—The following tables have been compiled from monthly and quarterly returns received at the Bureau from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, and from Boiler, Lift, and Scaffolding Inspectors in the several States. In the Annual Reports issued by the State Departments special sections are published relating to accidents in industrial undertakings. Reference to these Reports will afford detailed information. The thanks of the Bureau are extended to the officials of the various State Departments, including the officials of the Mining Departments, for the summarized returns shown hereunder.

2. **Number of Accidents reported.**—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State during the years 1926 to 1930 :—

Industrial Accidents.—Numbers, 1926 to 1930.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
No. of Fatal Accidents	1926 ..	68	23	11	18	16	7	143
	1927 ..	66	26	6	11	34	6	149
	1928 ..	55	9	16	8	6	3	97
	1929 ..	65	20	15	10	11	16	137
	1930 ..	51	10	15	1	20	7	104
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	1926 ..	845	523	292	331	694	67	2,752
	1927 ..	(a)2,771	759	325	359	663	89	4,966
	1928 ..	3,903	706	273	303	354	66	5,605
	1929 ..	6,061	655	325	264	340	56	7,701
	1930 ..	5,586	531	230	219	349	79	6,994

(a) *Vide* remarks below.

Compared with the previous year, the number of fatal accidents reported in 1930 showed a decrease. Fatalities were less numerous in all States with the exception of Queensland and Western Australia. The number of non-fatal accidents increased in Western Australia and Tasmania, but decreased in the other States, the total for Australia being 6,994 in 1930, compared with 7,701 in 1929, a decrease of 9 per cent.

The large increase in the number of accidents recorded in New South Wales during the last four years, was due to an amendment of the Act which provided that all accidents which prevented workers from returning to work within seven days must be reported. The figures for this State are, therefore, not exactly comparable with those for other States. It is also mentioned that the definition of a non-fatal accident is not on uniform lines in all States.

3. **Accidents in Industrial Groups.**—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups for Australia during 1930.

Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1930.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incapacitating for over 14 days. (b)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	4	551
II. Engineering, etc.	1	1,347
III. Food, Drink, etc.	1	875
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	..	346
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	297
VI. Other Manufacturing	5	1,323
VII. Building and Scaffolding	16	54
VIII. Mining	(a) 70	(a) 1,985
IX. Lifts	4	14
X. Miscellaneous	3	202
Total	104	6,994

(a) Includes fatal and non-fatal accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works as follows :—Fatal accidents, 3 in Western Australia ; Non-fatal accidents—1,176 in New South Wales, 1 in Victoria, 6 in Western Australia, and 4 in Tasmania.
(b) *Vide* remarks above.

The largest number of accidents both fatal and non-fatal occurred in the mining and allied industries, the percentages being 67 for fatal and 28 for non-fatal on the respective totals recorded for all industrial accidents. Sixteen fatal accidents occurred in connexion with building and scaffolding, and four deaths were due to lift accidents. Eleven fatal and 4,739 non-fatal accidents were reported in the manufacturing industries, the largest number occurring in the engineering and metal-working group.

4. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, with the exception of those accidents which occur in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following tables give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments and to Inspectors of Factories concerning accidents in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works, in each State during the year 1930.

Mining Accidents.—Classification according to Causes, 1930.(a)

A.—Fatal Accidents.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
" " Falls of Ground ..	4	..	1	..	5	2	12
" " Falling down shafts, etc.	4	..	2	..	3	..	9
Other Accidents	..	..	2	..	..	1	3
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
Other Accidents	..	..	1	1	1	..	3
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.	5	2	1	..	3	2	13
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth ..	9	1	2	..	..	..	12
Other Accidents	5	..	1	..	..	..	6
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Other Accidents	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
Total	32	5	10	1	17	5	70

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the States Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works and quarries are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident.

B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total. (b)
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	2	1	2	..	9	2	16
" " Falls of Ground ..	7	..	..	..	10	..	17
" " Falling Down Shafts, etc.	4	..	1	2	4	..	11
Other Accidents	19	..	15	..	102	21	157
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	4	..	..	1	5	..	10
Other Accidents	7	..	2	10	78	3	100
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.	1,186	9	2	132	19	28	1,376
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	9	3	1	..	..	1	14
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth ..	18	2	22	..	25	..	67
Other Accidents	21	4	69	..	71	3	168
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	3	1	2	..	3	..	9
Other Accidents	8	2	12	..	15	1	38
Total	1,288	23	129	145	341	59	1,985

(a) Complete reports not available. (b) Inclusive of 1,187 accidents reported by Chief Inspectors of Factories as having occurred in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works.

The number of fatal mining accidents occurring below ground in Australia during the year was 47 as compared with 23 above ground. Fatal accidents in ore-dressing, smelting and metallurgical works during 1930 numbered 13, as against 27 in metalliferous mines, and 20 in coal mines. The total number of non-fatal accidents reported by Mining Departments and Inspectors of Factories in connexion with batteries, ore-dressing, smelting, etc., was 1,376. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 452 and above ground 157.

CHAPTER IV.—ASSOCIATIONS.

§ 1. Labour Organizations.

1. **General.**—In Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at the present time, and also its development since the year 1926. The recognition of the fact that the affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results has assisted in securing complete information, and thanks are again tendered to the secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in this matter.

The figures published in this chapter cover the years 1926 to 1930, and reference should be made to previous reports for particulars in respect of the years 1912 to 1925.

2. **Trade Unions and Branches—Number and Membership, 1926 to 1930.**—The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and branches with the number of members at the end of the years 1926 to 1930.

Trade Unions—Branches and Membership, 1926 to 1930.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern T'tory.	Total.	Aust.
NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.									
1926	191	157	109	108	121	79	3	768	*a*372
1927	186	149	104	106	130	81	3	759	*a*369
1928	197	151	102	106	128	80	4	768	*a*379
1929	195	151	106	105	129	81	4	771	*a*374
1930	*e*203	151	107	106	127	82	4	780	*a*362
NUMBER OF BRANCHES.									
1926	602	384	284	90	153	51	..	1,564	*b*1,960
1927	593	408	307	104	168	61	..	1,641	*b*2,031
1928	596	415	311	104	190	74	..	1,690	*b*2,079
1929	598	410	315	173	189	72	..	1,757	*b*2,154
1930	598	410	319	173	190	71	..	1,761	*b*2,179
NUMBER OF MEMBERS.									
1926	329,260	230,539	142,985	79,908	52,616	15,783	387	851,478	851,478
1927	355,127	247,618	150,651	79,771	60,586	16,734	1,165	911,652	911,652
1928	357,390	242,190	154,799	75,725	61,498	18,465	1,474	911,541	911,541
1929	354,430	240,809	154,627	69,479	63,619	17,215	989	901,168	901,168
1930	343,134*e*	229,322	141,925	63,318	60,243	16,831	984	855,757	855,757
PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP. (*d*)									
1926	6.6	4.3	11.9	8.6	7.7	4.3	*c*16.3	7.0	7.0
1927	7.9	7.4	5.4	*c*0.2	15.1	6.0	201.0	7.1	7.1
1928	0.6	*c*2.2	2.8	*c*5.1	1.5	10.3	26.5	..	..
1929	*c*0.8	*c*0.2	*c*0.1	*c*7.9	3.4	*c*7.3	*c*32.9	*c*1.1	*c*1.1
1930	*c*3.2	*c*4.8	*c*8.2	*c*8.9	*c*5.3	*c*2.2	*c*0.5	*c*5.0	*c*5.0

(*a*) Allowing for inter-State duplication. The figures represent the number of distinct organizations and inter-State groups of organizations. They do not represent the total number of organizations which are practically independent and self-governing (see remarks below). (*b*) Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of inter-State unions, but also head State branches of inter-State unions. (*c*) Decrease. (*d*) On preceding year. (*e*) Includes 13 unions with a membership of 1,042 in the Federal Capital Territory.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly in character, and range from the small independent association to the large inter-State organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international union. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations, viz. :— (i) the local independent ; (ii) the State ; (iii) the inter-State ; and (iv) the Australasian or international.

In the table just given, under the heading " Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted once only, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In the total number of separate unions in each State (see last column but one), it is obvious that there will be duplication in the case of inter-State and similar unions, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it is represented by a branch. The figures in the last column, therefore, have been obtained by making an adjustment to allow for this duplication.

3. **Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1926 to 1930.**—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1926 to 1930. In previous Reports attention has been drawn to the fact that the number of unions classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), increased considerably during the period 1918 to 1920, and a correspondingly large increase occurred in the membership of the group. During recent years many associations of employees of public and semi-public bodies have been organized, and such unions are now included in the tabulations. Public Service, municipal, banking and insurance associations, which were not previously recognized, are now registered under the provisions of Commonwealth and State Industrial Arbitration Acts, and are therefore classified as industrial bodies. The inclusion of these organizations is responsible, to a great extent, for the increase in Group XIV.

Trade Unions—Industrial Groups—Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Industrial Groups.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
	NUMBER OF UNIONS (*a*).				
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	4	4	4	4	4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	22	23	23	22	22
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	35	32	33	33	32
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	9	11	12	12	12
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	9	8	8	8	9
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	37	41	40	42	41
VII. Building	31	28	28	28	28
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	12	12	14	14	14
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	33	28	30	31	30
X. Other Land Transport	8	8	5	5	5
XI. Shipping, etc.	26	24	29	28	26
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	3	3	3	3	3
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	16	19	20	19	15
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	19	19	19	20	20
(ii) Public Service	53	53	54	50	45
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	6	7	7	7	7
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring	12	13	13	13	13
(v) Other Miscellaneous ..	37	36	37	35	36
Total	372*a*	369*a*	379*a*	374*a*	362*a*

(*a*) Allowing for Inter-State duplication.

Trade Unions—Industrial Groups—Australia, 1926 to 1930—*continued.*

Industrial Groups.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
			NUMBER OF MEMBERS.		
Manufacturing—					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	35,315	37,110	35,740	35,898	30,944
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	79,201	82,720	87,417	85,425	79,081
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	67,255	70,012	71,994	71,948	71,437
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	47,932	53,641	56,874	56,300	50,625
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	18,592	19,214	19,771	19,817	19,822
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	44,605	47,671	46,779	44,693	44,742
VII. Building	53,881	57,234	60,416	61,191	59,629
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	46,014	49,179	43,044	43,098	42,405
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	114,899	121,300	116,061	113,281	106,968
X. Other Land Transport	20,844	22,137	20,632	18,817	18,211
XI. Shipping, etc.	40,594	42,702	38,361	38,308	38,050
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	54,173	60,394	55,547	50,266	43,639
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	25,760	28,313	30,488	29,767	25,504
XIV. Miscellaneous—					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical	28,053	31,343	28,371	30,440	31,140
(ii) Public Service	72,941	76,225	79,175	79,773	81,275
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	23,374	30,685	31,034	31,887	28,859
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring	40,009	42,811	48,691	46,577	41,027
(v) Other Miscellaneous ..	38,036	38,961	41,146	43,682	42,399
Total	851,478	911,652	911,541	901,168	855,757

4. Trade Unions—Numbers and Percentages of Male and Female Members.—(i) *States*, 1930. The census of 1921 gives the percentage of male and female employees (*i.e.*, persons "in receipt of wages or salary," and persons "unemployed"), 20 years of age and over, on the total male and female population, and by applying these percentages to the estimated total male and female population at 31st December 1930, an estimate of the number of adult employees of each sex in that year is obtained.

The following table shows separately for males and females and for each State (*a*) the number of members of trade unions, (*b*) the estimated number of employees of each sex 20 years of age and over in all professions, trades, and occupations, and (*c*) the percentage of the former (*a*) on the latter (*b*) at the end of the year 1930. The estimated number of employees includes all persons (over the age specified) in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a large number of adults who are not eligible for membership of any trade union (such as certain persons employed in professional occupations) as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation. Moreover, the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The Census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and age 20 years is taken as approximating to the age of admission to membership. A line has also been added showing the estimated numbers of "junior" workers under 20 years of age.

Trade Unions—Number and Percentage of Male and Female Members, 1930.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (*a*)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Nthn. T'tory.	Australia.
				MALES.				
Estimated Total No. of Employees 20 years of age and over ..	523,900	345,300	195,000	116,400	92,400	38,400	1,600	1,313,000
No. of Members of Unions ..	303,473	184,707	124,122	55,741	52,287	14,484	953	735,767
Percentage of Members on Estimated Total No. Employees ..	57.9	53.5	63.7	47.9	56.6	37.7	59.6	56.0
Junior Workers (under 20) ..	91,060	67,660	35,980	23,090	16,920	8,550	140	243,400
				FEMALES.				
Estimated Total No. of Employees 20 years of age and over ..	116,130	103,900	40,500	25,300	17,100	8,500	170	311,600
No. of Members of Unions ..	39,661	44,615	17,803	7,577	7,956	2,347	31	119,990
Percentage of Members on Estimated Total No. Employees ..	34.2	42.9	44.0	29.9	46.5	27.6	18.2	38.5
Junior Workers (under 20) ..	50,330	43,280	18,790	12,260	8,740	4,050	50	137,500

(*a*) Inclusive of Federal Capital Territory.

(ii) *Australia.*—Similar particulars for Australia for the five years 1926 to 1930 are given in the next table.

Trade Unions—Number and Percentages of Male and Female Members—Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Particulars.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
MALES.					
Estimated Total Number of Employees 20 years of age and over	1,240,914	1,267,636	1,288,200	1,302,400	1,313,000
Number of Members of Unions	745,681	793,131	785,189	774,031	735,767
Percentage of Members on Estimated Total Number of Employees	60·1	62·6	60·9	59·4	56 0
Junior Workers (under 20)	230,003	234,994	239,050	241,400	243,400
FEMALES.					
Estimated Total Number of Employees 20 years of age and over	293,594	299,205	304,000	308,200	311,600
Number of Members of Unions	105,797	118,521	126,352	127,137	119,990
Percentage of Members on Estimated Total Number of Employees	36.0	39·6	41.5	41·3	38 5
Junior Workers (under 20)	129,540	132,015	134,200	136,000	137,500

5. **Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1926 to 1930.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1926 to 1930 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table inter-State unions are, of course, counted once only :—

Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members—Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5000 and under 10,000.	2000 and under 5000.	1000 and under 2000.	500 and under 1000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.											
1926 ..	23	14	35	52	46	26	28	51	46	51	372
1927 ..	25	16	40	47	49	28	29	44	38	53	369
1928 ..	27	15	38	46	46	34	29	47	45	52	379
1929 ..	26	15	37	45	47	28	34	49	37	56	374
1930 ..	28	8	39	41	43	33	30	48	35	57	362
MEMBERSHIP.											
1926 ..	501,514	101,277	112,095	74,867	32,132	10,638	6,846	7,323	3,288	1,498	851,478
1927 ..	556,402	101,341	124,686	65,693	34,772	10,649	6,996	6,722	2,836	1,555	911,652
1928 ..	565,478	94,520	121,944	65,148	32,738	13,047	6,895	7,114	3,220	1,437	911,541
1929 ..	556,447	98,868	117,834	64,008	33,720	10,831	8,273	7,061	2,601	1,525	901,168
1930 ..	543,235	57,939	133,496	58,476	31,726	12,786	7,030	7,007	2,485	1,577	855,757
PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.											
1926 ..	58.9	11.9	13.1	8.8	3.8	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.4	0·2	100·0
1927 ..	61.0	11.1	13.7	7.2	3.8	1.2	0.8	0.7	0·3	0.2	100·0
1928 ..	62.0	10.4	13.3	7.1	3.6	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.4	0·2	100.0
1929 ..	61.7	11.0	13.1	7.1	3.7	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1930 ..	63·5	6.8	15·6	6.8	3·7	1·5	0·8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100·0

In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given for the years 1926 to 1930. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact that though membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 98 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, viz., from 360 to 287.

6. **Inter-State or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of inter-State or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include inter-State unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Inter-State or Federated Trade Unions—Number and Membership, 1926 to 1930.

PARTICULARS.		UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
		2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	a6 States.	
Number of Unions	1926 ..	19	15	12	22	43	111
	1927 ..	16	13	14	20	44	107
	1928 ..	17	14	14	19	43	107
	1929 ..	19	13	16	20	43	111
	1930 ..	18	15	16	19	43	111
Number of Members	1926 ..	26,271	53,873	86,491	204,094	341,061	711,790
	1927 ..	21,828	42,912	104,965	193,221	377,433	740,359
	1928 ..	22,200	51,225	95,363	175,128	398,355	742,271
	1929 ..	26,055	53,967	107,030	208,721	352,765	748,538
	1930 ..	24,699	63,103	99,861	183,309	357,469	728,441

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Federal Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 111 in 1930, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 85 per cent. during the same period.

7. **Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a per capita tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils, to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The table hereunder gives the number

of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith in each State at the end of the years 1926 to 1930.

Central Labour Organizations—Number, and Unions Affiliated, 1926 to 1930.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	Total.
No. of Councils	1926 ..	2	6	4	2	9	2	1	26
	1927 ..	3	5	4	2	8	2	1	25
	1928 ..	3	6	5	2	9	2	1	28
	1929 ..	3	5	4	2	9	2	1	26
	1930 ..	3	5	5	2	9	2	..	26
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	1926 ..	91	196	85	65	206	47	3	693
	1927 ..	98	192	81	65	223	47	3	709
	1928 ..	97	188	83	65	227	55	1	716
	1929 ..	87	189	78	64	227	59	1	705
	1930 ..	84	188	68	65	237	59	..	701

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members, such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the iron, steel or brass trades, or with the building trades.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of the Commonwealth, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress, held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State ; such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. The Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils are the branches of the Australasian Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

8. **Organizations Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.**—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.*. Registered unions include both inter-State associations and associations operating within one State only.

At the end of the year 1930 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 28, with a membership of approximately 18,000. At the same date the number of unions registered was 136, with a membership of approximately 750,000, representing 87.6 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service.

§ 2. Employers' Associations.

1. **General.**—Recent investigations show that the spirit of association is no less manifest in the case of employers than in the case of workers. Associations for trade purposes merely are not included in the present chapter, which deals with those associations only whose members are united for their own protection, and for representation in cases before Arbitration Courts, Wages Boards and other wage-fixing tribunals. Associations of employers and employees are recognized under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act as well as under several State Acts, and such organizations may be registered.

2. **Employers' Associations in each State.**—The following table gives particulars of the number and membership of employers' associations in each State at the end of the years 1926 to 1930 :—

Employers' Associations—States, 1926 to 1930.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.							
1926	136	143	72	52	50	25	478
1927	141	136	77	52	52	27	485
1928	146	140	76	56	59	28	505
1929	146	154	80	56	62	29	527
1930	146	152	83	58	66	29	534
NUMBER OF BRANCHES.							
1926	464	617	183	..	16	..	1,280
1927	825	483	109	..	281	1	1,699
1928	907	525	188	13	301	1	1,935
1929	921	526	191	12	301	6	1,957
1930	930	495	197	12	297	7	1,938
MEMBERSHIP.							
1926	42,666	32,386	21,113	6,572	8,356	2,481	113,574
1927	53,715	31,629	18,381	6,361	10,190	2,464	122,740
1928	55,353	33,626	18,393	6,751	10,390	2,668	127,181
1929	57,839	36,357	20,113	6,871	11,410	2,752	135,342
1930	56,430	37,790	18,791	7,218	11,723	2,717	134,669

The large increase shown for "Number of Branches" since the year 1926 is wholly due to the inclusion of associations representing agricultural interests, while the increase in total membership is partly attributable to a more complete collection of statistics relating to these organizations.

3. Employers' Associations in Industrial Groups.—The figures in the table hereunder refer to Australia at the end of the years 1929 and 1930.

Employers' Associations—Industrial Groups—Australia, 1929 and 1930.

Class.	Number of Associations.		Number of Branches.		Membership.	
	1929.	1930.	1929.	1930.	1929.	1930.
Manufacturing—						
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	20	19	3	3	1,740	1,607
II. Engineering, etc.	16	16	12	12	3,271	3,352
III. Food, Drink, etc.	111	113	82	91	19,603	20,585
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	18	20	2	2	2,323	2,147
V. Books, Printing, etc.	43	45	2	2	3,453	2,970
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	51	51	3	3	3,722	3,847
VII. Building	27	27	17	17	3,795	3,311
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc	13	12	..	..	245	247
X. Other Land Transport ..	18	19	21	21	2,836	2,798
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	16	16	6	6	241	240
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	44	45	1,785	1,750	74,592	74,409
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	21	20	..	..	1,869	1,756
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	129	131	24	31	17,652	17,400
Total ..	527	534	1,957	1,938	135,342	134,669

The female membership of these associations was 5,282 for 1929, and 5,072 for 1930.

The organization of employers is relatively strongest in the pastoral and agricultural industries and in the manufacture and distribution of articles of food and drink. In the former case there has been considerable growth in organization among small farmers, and in the latter the large membership is mainly due to the proprietors of shops purveying foodstuffs being members of grocers', butchers', and other similar associations.

4. Employers' Associations in Membership Groups.—The following table gives information in membership groups for Australia for the years 1926 to 1930.

Employers' Associations—Membership Groups—Australia, 1926 to 1930.

Membership Groups.	1000 and over.	500 and under 1000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.								
1926	20	19	22	16	54	64	283	478
1927	20	23	20	18	60	73	271	485
1928	22	21	23	20	59	75	285	505
1929	25	18	22	18	60	80	304	527
1930	25	21	19	19	58	78	314	534
MEMBERSHIP.								
1926	70,673	13,559	8,579	3,654	7,751	4,202	5,156	113,574
1927	75,339	16,889	7,773	4,215	8,605	4,788	5,131	122,740
1928	78,503	15,373	9,391	4,918	8,637	4,911	5,448	127,181
1929	89,156	13,208	8,568	4,467	8,948	5,241	5,754	135,342
1930	88,531	15,039	7,223	4,363	8,297	5,221	5,995	134,669
PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.								
1926	62	12	8	3	7	4	4	100
1927	61	14	6	4	7	4	4	100
1928	62	12	7	4	7	4	4	100
1929	66	10	6	3	7	4	4	100
1930	66	11	5	3	6	4	5	100

5. Federations of Employers' Associations.—In addition to the associations in various industries, there are Central Associations in each State, to which many of these separate organizations are affiliated. Examples of this kind of association are provided in the Chamber of Manufactures, Chamber of Commerce, and Employers' Federation in each State. Further, these State Associations are, in some cases, organized on a Federal basis, e.g., there is an Associated Chamber of Manufactures, an Associated Chamber of Commerce, and a Central Employers' Association, to which State branches are affiliated.

The affiliation of these associations is, however, of a very loose nature when compared with that of the Federated Trade Unions. Whereas in the latter case the central body has complete control of its State branches, in the case of the Employers' Associations the State body generally has complete independence, the central body acting in a more or less advisory capacity only.

The following table gives particulars for years 1926 to 1930, so far as can be ascertained, of inter-State or federated associations having branches in two or more States :—

Inter-State or Federated Employers' Associations, 1926 to 1930.

YEAR.	ASSOCIATIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
	2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.	
	NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS.					
1926	4	3	5	8	8	28
1927	4	1	4	9	14	32
1928	3	3	3	11	16	36
1929	3	4	4	10	16	37
1930	4	3	4	12	16	39
	MEMBERSHIP.					
1926	534	432	1,861	24,118	25,950	52,895
1927	352	315	1,655	40,548	37,654	80,524
1928	205	1,126	208	59,175	41,511	102,225
1929	201	1,066	594	60,729	43,166	105,756
1930	1,169	339	975	61,327	43,303	107,113

Of the total membership of 134,669 of all employers' associations, 80 per cent. are organized on an inter-State basis. The Pastoral, Agricultural, &c , section (Class XII.) is the most extensive representative in the federated sphere, their numbers covering no less than 52 per cent. of the total membership of federated organizations. The Food, Drink, &c., section (Class III.) and the Miscellaneous section (Class XIV.) are also well represented in the federations.

§ 3. International Comparisons.

1. **The International Labour Conferences.**—In Chapter XVII. of Labour Report No. 14, information was given with regard to the clauses in the Peace Treaty referring to labour conditions. Provision was made in the Treaty for the holding of International Labour Conferences and the institution of the International Labour Office. In the report referred to, information was given regarding the activities of the Labour Office and the reports of the five Annual Labour Conferences, which had then been held. A short summary of the proceedings at the Sixth Conference was given in Labour Report No. 15; of the Seventh Conference in Labour Report No. 16; of the Eighth and Ninth Conferences in Labour Report No. 17; and of the Tenth Conference in Labour Report, No. 19.

The subject-matters discussed, and the names of the Australian delegates to the Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Conferences were given in Labour Report, No. 20.

The Fourteenth Session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 10th to 28th June, 1930. Australia was represented by Mr. P. E. Coleman, M.H.R., Commonwealth Government delegate; Mr. W. C. F. Thomas, C.B.E., Employers' delegate; Mr. Charles A. Crofts, Employees' delegate; and Major O. C. Fuhrman, O.B.E., Adviser.

Draft Conventions and Recommendations relative to labour and industrial conditions were adopted by the Conference:—Convention concerning forced or compulsory labour; recommendation concerning indirect compulsion to labour; recommendation concerning the regulation of forced or compulsory labour; convention concerning the regulation of hours of work in commerce and offices; recommendation concerning the regulation of hours of work in hotels, restaurants and similar establishments; recommendation concerning the regulation of hours of work in theatres and other places of amusement; recommendation concerning the regulation of hours of work in establishments for the treatment or the care of the sick, infirm, destitute or mentally unfit.

The following questions were considered by the Conference:—Forced labour; hours of work of salaried employees; and hours of work in coal-mines. Draft conventions were adopted on each of the first two questions. On the question of hours of work in coal-mines the necessary two-thirds majority failed to be obtained by a few votes when the final vote was taken, and the Conference decided to put the question on the Agenda of its next session for reconsideration. The Conference also dealt with a number of proposals submitted by the Governing Body on different questions affecting the Standing Orders of the Conference.

2. **Unemployment.**—In the following table the percentage of unemployment in various countries is shown for each month of the year 1930. The figures are obtained chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, published by the League of Nations, Geneva :—

Unemployment in various countries during 1930.

Country.	Percentage Unemployed During Month of—												Average for Year.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Australia	..	..	14.6	..	..	18.5	..	..	20.5	..	..	23.4	19.3
Belgium	4.0	4.9	4.5	5.8	6.1	6.5	7.7	8.2	9.5	8.5	12.0	17.0	7.9
Canada	10.8	11.5	10.8	9.0	10.3	10.6	9.2	9.3	9.4	10.8	13.8	17.0	11.0
Denmark	20.3	21.0	15.6	11.8	9.4	8.7	9.3	9.0	9.4	11.4	15.3	24.6	13.8
Germany	22.0	23.5	21.7	20.3	19.5	19.6	20.5	21.7	22.5	23.6	26.0	31.7	22.7
Great Britain ..	12.4	12.9	13.7	14.2	15.0	15.4	16.7	17.1	17.6	18.7	19.1	20.2	16.1
Holland	13.9	12.5	8.6	6.9	6.3	5.5	6.7	7.6	8.2	9.6	12.5	18.2	9.7
New Zealand ..	..	..	8.5	..	..	10.9	..	..	13.5	..	..	15.5	12.1
Norway	19.0	18.9	17.8	15.8	12.2	10.8	10.8	13.4	15.7	18.0	21.4	25.5	16.6
Sweden	14.2	13.2	12.5	11.1	8.3	8.3	7.9	8.4	9.8	12.5	15.6	23.3	12.1
Switzerland ..	..	..	4.2	..	..	5.7	..	..	8.3	..	..	10.4	7.2

3. **Trade Unionism in other Countries.**—The following table gives the membership of Trade Unions in the principal countries. The information has been obtained from various sources, but chiefly from the publications issued by the *International Federation of Trade Unions*.

Trade Unions—Membership, 1929 (or latest date).

Country.	No. of Organized Workers.	Country.	No. of Organized Workers.
Argentine	112,000	Japan	308,900
Australia	901,168	Jugo-Slavia	60,044
Austria	766,168	Korea	123,000
Belgium	528,380	Latvia	23,556
Brazil	270,000	Lithuania	18,486
Canada	319,476	Luxemburg	17,668
Ceylon	114,000	Mexico	1,800,000
Chile	204,000	Mongolia	5,000
China	2,800,000	New Zealand	102,646
Cuba	71,186	Norway	137,000
Czechoslovakia	1,738,265	Palestine	26,049
Denmark	311,052	Panama	3,000
Dutch East Indies	24,021	Paraguay	8,000
Egypt	60,000	Peru	25,000
Estonia	13,336	Philippines	67,000
Finland	90,321	Poland	512,317
France	1,200,600	Porto Rico	18,000
Germany	4,948,267	Portugal	20,000
Great Britain	4,833,115	Roumania	41,421
Greece	82,775	Russia	11,060,000
Holland	561,037	South African Union ..	115,997
Hungary	177,678	Spain	295,000
Iceland	111,921	Sweden	528,107
India	273,621	Switzerland	265,612
Ireland	108,636	Uruguay	28,484
Italy	3,000,000	United States	4,331,251

4. **Retail Prices of Food—Various Countries.**—The following table shows the average retail prices of the chief items of food in the principal cities of the countries specified. The prices have been extracted from official publications and reports :—

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities—Australia and Other Countries—1930.

(Particulars extracted from Official Publications and Reports.)

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	AUSTRALIA.								NEW ZEALAND.							
		Sydney.				Melbourne.				Wellington.				Christchurch.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	5.73	5.73	5.50	5.13	5.33	5.23	5.03	4.73	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50
Flour, ordinary	25 lb.	54.40	52.35	49.40	42.50	51.90	48.60	46.95	37.80	64.00	63.25	65.50	65.50	55.00	55.00	57.50	57.00
Tea	lb.	25.45	25.45	24.91	25.18	28.10	27.50	26.40	26.50	26.50	26.75	27.25	27.75	27.75	27.00	26.25	25.50
Coffee ..	,,	26.09	26.09	25.64	25.45	26.80	26.80	26.00	25.90	27.75	28.75	28.25	29.50	26.50	23.75	25.00	24.00
Sugar.. ..	,,	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.48	4.50	4.50	4.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Rice	,,	3.73	3.68	3.57	3.52	3.70	3.55	3.50	3.40	3.00	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00
Oatmeal ..	,,	4.10	3.93	3.91	3.80	3.66	3.41	3.33	3.15	3.68	2.93	2.89	2.86	3.50	3.14	2.71	2.71
Raisins ..	,,	9.00	8.77	8.95	8.82	9.75	9.55	9.40	9.25	5.00	5.25	5.50	4.75	5.00	5.25	5.25	5.25
Potatoes ..	14 lb.	20.58	23.14	23.36	21.21	10.86	14.43	11.93	10.93	18.00	16.75	16.25	19.00	18.75	13.25	12.75	12.00
Onions ..	lb.	2.75	2.00	1.89	1.86	1.21	0.75	1.00	0.96	2.25	1.25	2.00	3.00	2.25	1.25	1.25	3.25
Milk	quart	8.67	8.61	8.40	7.90	7.39	7.30	7.30	7.00	6.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Butter ..	lb.	23.32	22.18	22.59	18.40	22.35	22.10	21.35	17.25	18.50	15.25	17.00	13.50	19.25	17.25	14.75	14.50
Cheese ..	,,	14.77	16.00	14.73	12.50	18.00	18.20	17.10	15.45	12.00	11.75	11.75	11.50	11.75	11.50	11.25	10.75
Eggs	dozen	24.00	33.45	18.00	17.45	20.40	28.20	16.90	12.65	27.25	39.25	18.75	18.50	17.25	31.75	17.25	12.50
Bacon ..	lb.	12.55 20.14	11.95 18.82	11.20 18.09	9.95 16.18	14.25 21.90	13.63 21.20	13.25 19.40	13.13 18.25	16.00	16.25	16.25	16.00	15.00	15.75	16.00	15.75
Beef, sirloin ..	,,	12.00	11.44	11.33	10.94	11.55	11.10	11.65	10.40	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.75	9.00	8.75	8.75
,, rib ..	,,	8.85	8.60	8.85	8.33	9.70	9.45	9.60	8.60	7.25	7.25	7.00	7.00	8.50	7.50	7.75	7.75
,, steak, rump		16.89	16.67	16.44	16.00	16.80	16.50	17.10	16.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.75	12.00	12.00
Mutton, leg ..	,,	8.00	7.75	7.60	7.45	7.25	7.30	7.60	6.35	9.25	9.25	8.75	8.50	9.50	7.50	7.50	8.00
,, chops..	,,	7.65 to 10.60	7.55 to 10.50	7.45 to 10.45	7.25 to 9.90	5.00 to 8.56	5.00 to 8.67	5.25 to 8.83	4.80 to 8.11	9.25	9.25	8.75	8.50	8.50	6.50	6.75	7.00
Pork chops ..	,,	15.15	14.65	14.55	13.06	14.20	13.30	13.20	11.75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities—Australia and Other Countries—1930—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	United Kingdom.				Union of South Africa.							
						Capetown.				Johannesburg.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	4.50	4.38	4.25	3.75	7.92	7.85	7.85	7.85	7.81	7.78	7.75	7.72
Flour, ordinary ..	25 lb.	57.14	54.46	53.57	47.32	84.19	83.44	84.00	83.25	80.90	79.90	78.73	77.83
Tea	lb.	24.00	23.75	23.75	23.50	34.08	34.33	33.25	33.83	30.97	30.79	30.85	30.77
Coffee	,,	..	..	..	..	20.67	20.67	20.75	19.92	21.12	20.58	19.94	19.18
Sugar	,,	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.50	3.65	3.65	3.63	3.58	4.01	4.01	4.01	4.00
Rice	,,	..	..	..	..	3.18	3.18	3.05	2.96	4.98	4.95	4.95	5.00
Oatmeal	,,	..	..	..	..	4.06	4.18	4.13	3.94	4.38	4.29	4.29	4.28
Raisins	,,	..	..	..	..	10.46	6.83	10.38	10.38	11.21	10.44	10.38	9.94
Potatoes	14 lb.	9.50	8.50	13.50	12.00	23.98	22.37	21.32	21.85	17.49	18.36	17.76	24.01
Onions	lb.	..	..	..	..	2.06	2.11	2.17	2.44	2.19	2.14	2.04	2.18
Milk	quart	6.50	5.75	6.00	6.50	7.67	7.67	7.67	7.50	6.73	7.27	7.09	6.73
Butter	lb.	22.50	18.50	19.50	18.00	23.67	22.67	22.25	22.50	20.77	20.18	19.94	21.77
Cheese	,,	14.00	12.75	12.50	12.25	17.46	17.96	18.79	16.96	16.38	17.26	17.71	16.78
Eggs	dozen	24.00	18.00	24.00	33.00	24.33	30.33	21.67	18.56	24.33	34.31	16.31	16.35
Bacon	lb.	17.50	16.25	15.75	13.75	15.29	15.14	15.14	15.00	13.98	13.58	13.33	13.10
						26.50	25.90	25.70	24.70	21.54	21.01	20.00	19.12
Beef, sirloin	,,	..	..	..	..	9.62	9.62	8.86	9.57	8.26	8.09	8.05	8.27
,, rib	,,	(*a*)16.75	(*a*)16.50	(*a*)16.50	(*a*)16.25	7.38	7.38	7.38	7.38	5.17	5.13	5.09	5.09
		(*b*)11.00	(*b*)10.50	(*b*)10.50	(*b*)10.50								
,, steak, rump ..	,,	..	..	..	..	12.14	12.14	11.43	11.43	10.91	10.83	10.68	10.86
Mutton, leg	,,	(*a*)18.00	(*a*)18.00	(*a*)18.00	(*a*)17.75	10.14	10.14	9.38	9.29	9.96	9.83	9.68	9.82
		(*b*)11.75	(*b*)11.25	(*b*)11.25	(*b*)11.25								
Pork chops	,,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(*a*) British. (*b*) Chilled or frozen.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities—Australia and Other Countries—1930—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	Canada.								United States of America.(*b*)			
		Ottawa.				Montreal.							
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2 lb.	(*a*)7.80	(*a*)7.70	(*a*)7.40	(*a*)6.60	(*a*)7.80	(*a*)7.70	(*a*)7.40	(*a*)6.60	8.80	8.80	8.70	8.50
Flour, ordinary	25 lb.	70.00	68.75	62.50	53.75	67.50	67.50	61.25	51.25	63.75	60.00	56.25	52.50
Tea	lb.	35.80	30.05	31.00	29.50	34.20	30.85	30.15	29.95	38.95	38.75	38.65	38.40
Coffee	„	29.45	28.40	30.40	28.05	29.75	28.85	28.90	28.25	21.35	20.45	19.80	19.35
Sugar	„	3.25	3.15	3.00	2.90	3.30	3.00	2.90	2.90	3.25	3.15	2.95	2.95
Rice	„	5.50	5.45	5.35	5.40	5.05	4.95	4.90	4.85	4.80	4.85	4.80	4.65
Oatmeal	„	3.30	3.20	3.10	2.90	3.10	2.95	2.95	2.75	4.40	4.35	4.35	4.30
Raisins	„	8.52	8.27	8.00	8.16	8.80	8.69	8.53	8.16	6.10	6.00	5.95	5.75
Potatoes	14 lb.	20.95	21.00	12.88	11.57	18.43	19.56	11.57	11.34	27.30	30.10	22.40	20.30
Onions	lb.	2.70	3.05	2.80	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.25	2.55	3.00	4.70	3.90
Milk	quart	6.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	7.50	6.00	6.00	6.25	7.05	7.00	7.00	7.00
Butter	lb.	22.35	17.55	16.85	17.70	22.00	18.50	17.50	18.40	23.50	23.15	24.35	22.70
Cheese	„	17.70	17.20	16.50	13.05	15.40	15.35	15.25	13.85	18.45	17.90	17.10	16.90
Eggs	dozen	28.95	18.85	21.40	35.55	28.45	21.30	23.00	34.15	23.65	16.85	21.55	24.20
Bacon	lb.	17.30 20.75	19.20	18.85	19.00	18.20	18.45	18.15	17.95	21.30	21.15	21.35	21.05
			20.55	20.45	20.30	19.95	19.60	19.50	19.40				
Beef, sirloin	„	17.35	18.10	16.95	15.65	18.70	20.40	17.05	15.65	..	..	..	..
„ rib	„	13.50	15.60	13.05	12.45	17.00	18.00	15.55	13.95	18.00	17.80	16.50	15.95
„ steak, rump	„	15.35	15.95	14.60	15.65	16.05	17.80	15.10	15.65	21.65	21.50	19.85	19.05
Mutton, leg	„	14.85	15.25	14.35	12.85	16.75	15.65	15.15	13.85	..	..	..	..
Pork chops	„	14.50	14.95	13.95	12.85	14.85	14.95	13.90	12.45	17.60	18.05	19.55	16.40

(*a*) Dominion average. (*b*) Average for all towns.

APPENDIX.

Section I.

Wholesale Prices, Melbourne—Averages for years 1929 and 1930.

COMMODITY.	UNIT.	1929.	1930.
		s. d.	s. d.
GROUP I. METALS—			
Iron—Pig—Mixed Nos.	ton	140 0	140 0
Rod and Bar	,,	415 0	410 10
Angle and Tee	,,	321 8	320 0
Plate	,,	273 4	270 0
Hoop	,,	363 4	355 0
Galvanized Corrugated	,,	486 8	488 4
Wire Fencing	,,	285 0	297 3½
Zinc—Sheet	,,	1,250 0	1,250 0
Lead—Sheet	,,	784 2	810 10
Piping	,,	864 2	906 8
Copper—Sheet	lb.	1 5¼	1 5¼
Coal (on Wharf)	ton	45 9	43 10
Tinned Plates	box	29 2	29 8½
Quicksilver	lb.	3 10½	3 10½
GROUP II. WOOL, COTTON, ETC.—			
Jute Goods—Branbags	doz.	8 5⅜	6 6½
Cornsacks	,,	8 9⅝	8 4⅝
Woolpacks	each	4 1 15/16	3 9¾
Leather—Chrome Box Hide	ft.	1 3⅜	1 0 1/16
Sole Leather—Factory Sides	lb.	1 8⅜	1 3 5/16
Rough Tanned—Split	,,	1 1 1/16	0 9⅞
Cotton—Raw	,,	0 10	0 7¼
Wool	,,	1 3 1/16	0 9⅝
Tallow	ton	670 8 1/16	560 7¾
GROUP III. AGRICULT'L PRODUCE—			
Wheat	bushel	4 10 1/16	3 10½
Flour	ton	240 9 1/16	213 7⅝
Bran	,,	141 6 1/16	132 9 11/16
Pollard	,,	148 1⅝	140 3⅝
Oats	bushel	3 6⅜	2 11⅝
Oatmeal	ton	497 11	494 2
Barley—English	bushel	4 3 11/16	3 5 11/16
Cape	,,	3 5⅝	2 9 1/16
Maize	,,	5 4 7/16	5 7⅛
Hay	ton	181 4 11/16	164 11
Straw	,,	61 11¼	48 4½
Peas	bushel	7 1 1/16	5 6½
Potatoes	ton	276 10	109 11¼
Malt	bushel	7 6¼	6 10½
Chaff	ton	106 11½	94 0⅝
Onions	,,	210 10 7/16	70 6½
GROUP IV. DAIRY PRODUCE—			
Ham	lb.	1 7 1/16	1 5⅝
Bacon	,,	1 3 1/16	1 1 7/16
Cheese	,,	1 3½	1 2⅝
Butter	,,	1 9⅝	1 6½
Lard	,,	0 10	0 10 1/16
Eggs	doz.	1 2⅝	1 2⅝
Honey	lb.	0 4 15/16	0 4⅝
Beeswax	,,	1 9 11/16	1 5½
Condensed Milk	doz. tins	11 5¼	10 3 11/16

COMMODITY.	UNIT.	1929.	1930.
		s. d.	s. d.
GROUP V. GROCERIES, ETC.—			
Currants	lb.	0 7½	0 7¼
Raisins	,,	0 6¾	0 7
Herrings	doz. 1-lb tins	7 4⅛	7 7
Salmon	,,	19 3	19 3
Sardines	doz. hlvs	7 6	7 9⅜
Tea	lb.	1 4¾	1 2
Coffee	,,	2 1½	2 1½
Cocoa	,,	1 3	1 3
Sugar	ton	777 10	777 10
Macaroni	lb.	0 5½	0 5½
Tapioca	cwt.	21 6	20 8¼
Rice	ton	520 0	525 0
Salt—Fine	,,	110 0	112 1
Rock	,,	150 0	150 0
Mustard	doz. 1-lb. tins	44 10½	45 0⅜
Starch	lb.	0 11	0 11⅜
Blue	,,	1 0	1 0 1/16
Matches	gross	5 1 3/16	5 2¾
Candles	lb.	0 8	0 8
Kerosene	gallon	1 6	1 6
GROUP VI. MEAT—			
Beef	100 lb.	47 10 7/16	47 3⅜
Mutton	lb.	0 4 7/16	0 3 7/16
Lamb	,,	0 6¼	0 5⅝
Veal	,,	0 5½	0 5⅜
Pork	,,	0 10	0 7 11/16
GROUP VII. BUILDING MATERIAL—			
Timber, Flooring 6 x 1½	100 ft. lin.	23 2⅜	25 9¼
6 x 1	,,	17 11⅜	20 1
6 x ¾	,,	15 10 3/16	18 0
6 x ½	,,	11 7 1/16	12 9¼
Weatherboards	,,	12 6 1/16	14 0 1/16
Oregon	1,000 ft. sp.	238 4	252 6 15/16
Shelving	,,	450 10	471 11 1/16
Cement	cask	20 5	21 3
White Lead	ton	1,179 8	1,215 3
GROUP VIII. CHEMICALS—			
Cream of Tartar	lb.	1 4½	1 5 1/16
Carbonate of Soda	ton	285 0	289 7
Saltpetre	,,	715 0	835 5
Sulphur	,,	220 0	220 0
Caustic Soda	,,	550 0	550 0
Potassium Cyanide	lb.	1 7½	1 7½
Alum	ton	435 0	442 1

NOTE.—In many instances these prices are the averages of certain brands which have been on the market for a great number of years, and these particular commodities and prices were therefore adopted in the scheme of computing the index-numbers for fluctuations in wholesale prices generally.

Section II.

Average Retail Prices of Chief Food Items in Sydney during each Month of the Year, 1930.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, Year, 1930.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2 lb.	5.70	5.73	5.73	5.73	5.73	5.75	5.53	5.50	5.30	5.20	5.13	5.08	5.51
Flour	25 lb.	53–80	54.40	53.80	52.35	52.35	51.60	50.60	49.40	47.00	44.95	42.50	41.00	49.48
Tea	lb.	25.45	25.45	25.45	25.45	25.45	25.45	24.91	24.91	24.91	24.91	25.18	24.82	25.19
Coffee	,,	26.18	26.09	26.09	26.09	26.09	25.91	25.64	25.64	25.18	25.36	25.45	25.00	25.73
Sugar	,,	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
Rice	,,	3.75	3.73	3.73	3.68	3.68	3.64	3.61	3.57	3.50	3.55	3.52	3.52	3.63
Sago	,,	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.34	3.39	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.25	3.20	3.20	3.25	3.31
Jam	,,	6.94	6.79	6.85	7.47	6.73	6.73	6.67	6.64	6.67	6.58	6.36	6.18	6.71
Oatmeal	,,	4.20	4.10	4.09	4.03	3.93	4.02	3.88	3.91	3.93	3.82	3.80	3.74	3.96
Raisins	,,	9.14	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.77	8.77	8.82	8.95	8.82	8.91	8.82	8.59	8.88
Currants	,,	9.18	9.27	9.18	9.05	8.91	8.73	8.64	8.77	8.68	8.73	8.55	8.41	8.84
Starch	,,	9.27	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.45	9.36	9.41	9.23	9.36	9.36	9.39
Blue	doz. sq.	13.73	13.86	13.86	13.86	13.86	13.86	13.55	13.41	13.59	13.64	13.86	13.86	13.54
Candles	lb.	10.14	10.41	10.23	10.27	10.36	10.45	10.55	10.55	10.73	10.73	10.73	10.73	10.49
Soap	,,	5.16	5.51	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.53	5.53	5.42	5.55	5.48	5.61	5.61	5.50
Potatoes	14 lb.	23.33	20.58	23.33	23.33	23.14	23.43	22.07	23.36	19.57	20.86	21.21	21.33	22.13
Onions	lb.	3.00	2.75	2.33	2.25	2.00	1.86	1.86	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.86	2.00	2.13
Kerosene	gal.	23.25	23.25	23.25	22.95	22.20	22.20	22.10	22.20	22.09	22.09	22.09	21.94	22.47
Dairy Produce—														
Milk	quart	8.70	8.67	8.67	8.67	8.61	8.35	8.35	8.40	8.40	8.25	7.90	7.75	8.39
Butter	lb.	23.10	23.32	22.23	22.27	22.18	22.59	22.59	22.59	20.68	19.50	18.40	17.35	21.40
Cheese	,,	14.86	14.77	14.55	15.14	16.00	15.95	15.91	14.73	13.91	13.73	12.50	11.77	14.39
Eggs	doz.	22.00	24.00	26.91	32.64	33.45	32.00	23.23	18.00	17.18	17.15	17.45	19.60	23.64
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	20.14	20.14	19.68	19.05	18.82	18.64	18.55	18.09	17.27	16.73	16.18	15.77	18.26
,, Shoulder ..	,,	12.85	12.55	12.55	12.15	11.95	11.65	11.55	11.20	10.75	10.40	9.95	10.30	11.49
Ham	,,	23.39	23.39	23.28	23.17	22.61	22.06	22.11	21.67	21.00	19.83	19.28	18.45	21.69
Meat—														
Beef, Sirloin ..	,,	11.80	12.00	11.70	11.40	11.44	11.10	11.33	11.33	11.17	10.61	10.94	10.94	11.31
,, Ribs.. ..	,,	9.05	8.85	8.85	8.50	8.60	8.50	8.70	8.85	8.70	8.10	8.33	8.20	8.60
,, Flank ..	,,	9.25	9.06	9.05	8.95	8.44	8.35	8.22	8.28	8.11	7.75	8.00	8.20	8.47
,, Shin ..	,,	6.60	6.50	6.40	6.30	6.25	6.20	6.55	6.40	6.45	6.00	6.33	6.20	6.35
Steak, Rump ..	,,	16.70	16.89	16.60	16.50	16.67	16.10	16.00	16.44	16.00	15.78	16.00	16.11	16.32
,, Shoulder ..	,,	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.75	8.70	8.60	9.00	8.90	8.65	8.10	8.22	8.50	8.68
,, Stewing ..	,,	7.90	7.85	7.85	7.65	7.50	7.55	7.75	7.75	7.65	7.05	7.33	7.55	7.62
Beef, Corned Roll ..	,,	9.40	9.39	9.30	9.00	8.90	8.80	9.10	8.80	8.70	8.55	9.00	8.95	8.99
,, Brisket, with bone	,,	5.30	5.15	5.15	4.85	4.83	4.63	4.95	4.95	4.70	4.60	5.06	4.75	4.91
,, ,, without bone	,,	7.50	7.40	7.35	7.15	7.10	7.15	7.30	7.20	7.20	6.95	7.39	7.10	7.23
Mutton, Leg ..	,,	8.10	8.00	8.05	7.75	7.75	7.50	7.80	7.60	7.05	6.85	7.45	7.25	7.60
,, Shoulder ..	,,	6.05	6.00	5.95	5.90	5.80	5.80	5.95	5.90	5.45	5.30	5.80	5.55	5.79
,, Loin ..	,,	9.45	9.25	9.40	9.20	9.30	8.95	9.05	9.05	8.50	8.15	8.70	8.15	8.93
,, Neck ..	,,	4.25	4.05	4.30	4.30	4.25	4.35	4.50	4.25	4.20	3.85	4.30	4.35	4.25
Chops, Loin ..	,,	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.50	10.50	10.40	10.50	10.45	10.00	9.45	9.90	9.60	10.26
,, Leg ..	,,	9.50	9.56	9.50	9.40	9.39	9.05	9.35	9.20	8.90	8.35	9.10	8.95	9.19
,, Neck ..	,,	7.65	7.65	7.30	7.30	7.55	7.25	7.35	7.45	7.05	6.75	7.25	6.90	7.29
Pork, Leg ..	,,	14.60	14.65	14.50	14.40	13.90	13.90	14.20	13.80	12.40	12.70	13.33	12.75	13.76
,, Loin ..	,,	15.30	15.20	15.10	14.85	14.75	14.75	14.70	14.55	13.05	12.90	13.33	13.00	14.29
,, Leg ..	,,	13.25	13.25	13.10	12.90	12.80	12.80	11.70	11.70	10.90	10.80	11.17	10.45	11.54

Average Retail Prices of Chief Food Items in Melbourne during each month of the year, 1930.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average Year, 1930.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread	2 lb.	5.33	5.33	5.33	5.28	5.23	5.13	5.13	5.03	4.95	4.73	4.73	4.68	5.07
Flour	25 lb.	52.00	51.90	51.45	49.80	48.60	48.60	47.35	46.95	44.70	39.55	37.80	36.40	46.26
Tea	lb.	28.10	28.10	27.80	27.80	27.50	26.70	26.40	26.40	26.10	26.10	26.50	28.40	27.16
Coffee	"	26.80	26.80	26.80	26.80	26.80	26.50	26.00	26.00	26.00	25.90	25.90	26.20	26.38
Sugar	"	4.48	4.48	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
Rice	"	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.50	3.50	3.40	3.48	3.40	3.50	3.54
Sago	"	3.33	3.39	3.28	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.11	2.97	2.89	2.89	2.89	3.14
Jam	"	6.30	6.30	6.33	6.27	6.33	6.30	6.60	6.80	6.88	6.58	6.73	6.93	6.54
Oatmeal	"	3.66	3.66	3.70	3.50	3.41	3.40	3.30	3.33	3.25	3.15	3.15	3.00	3.38
Raisins	"	9.75	9.75	9.70	9.60	9.55	9.45	9.35	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.25	9.30	9.49
Currants	"	8.80	8.95	8.85	8.65	8.60	8.70	8.45	8.45	8.55	8.55	8.50	8.50	8.63
Starch	"	10.30	10.40	10.35	10.35	10.30	10.35	10.30	10.30	10.15	10.20	10.15	10.20	10.28
Blue	doz. sq.	12.28	12.35	12.35	12.55	12.28	12.23	12.23	11.98	12.35	12.35	12.35	12.35	12.29
Candles	lb.	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.40	11.10	11.45	11.48
Soap	"	5.29	5.29	5.29	5.29	5.29	5.19	5.19	5.19	5.09	5.09	5.09	5.19	5.21
Potatoes	14 lb.	14.43	10.86	11.29	14.93	14.43	13.00	12.86	11.93	10.57	10.86	10.93	12.00	12.34
Onions	lb.	1.71	1.21	1.04	0.91	0.75	0.88	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.96	0.96	1.07	1.04
Kerosene	gal.	22.76	22.66	22.86	22.16	22.11	21.61	21.51	21.91	21.59	21.74	22.14	22.21	22.11
Dairy Produce—														
Milk	quart	7.40	7.39	7.35	7.35	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.20	7.00	7.00	7.27
Butter	lb.	22.33	22.35	22.30	22.20	22.10	22.25	22.50	21.35	19.80	18.55	17.25	16.70	20.80
Cheese	"	18.20	18.00	18.00	17.70	18.20	17.80	17.70	17.10	16.90	16.05	15.45	14.70	17.15
Eggs	doz.	15.50	20.40	22.00	29.50	28.20	27.90	17.00	16.90	13.75	13.00	12.65	15.40	19.35
Bacon, Middle	lb.	21.90	21.90	22.00	21.40	21.20	20.90	20.30	19.40	18.80	18.25	18.25	18.25	20.19
" Shoulder	"	14.00	14.25	14.25	13.50	13.63	13.50	14.00	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.13	12.75	13.57
Ham	"	23.37	23.25	23.13	22.50	22.29	22.25	21.63	20.88	19.88	19.00	18.75	17.88	21.24
Meat—														
Beef, Sirloin	"	11.50	11.55	11.20	10.95	11.10	11.20	11.50	11.65	11.60	11.00	10.40	9.80	11.12
" Ribs	"	9.75	9.70	9.35	9.05	9.45	9.45	9.55	9.60	9.60	9.05	8.60	8.10	9.27
" Flank	"	8.50	8.56	8.44	8.44	8.61	8.67	8.94	8.72	8.56	8.17	8.22	8.00	8.49
" Shin	"	6.85	6.85	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.85	6.95	7.10	7.00	6.95	6.65	6.20	6.81
Steak, Rump	"	16.80	16.80	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	17.00	17.10	16.90	16.30	16.00	15.90	16.57
" Shoulder	"	9.60	9.50	9.35	9.15	9.45	9.45	9.90	9.75	9.65	9.40	9.00	8.75	9.41
" Stewing	"	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.10	8.20	8.35	8.30	8.45	8.50	8.25	7.75	7.35	8.20
Beef, Corned Roll	"	10.30	10.45	10.00	9.85	10.15	10.10	10.20	10.35	10.20	9.95	9.60	9.40	10.05
" Brisket, with bone	"	6.05	6.10	5.90	5.55	5.65	5.60	5.80	6.05	5.90	5.80	5.40	5.20	5.75
" " without bone	"	8.10	8.00	8.05	7.70	7.85	7.80	7.95	7.95	8.00	7.85	7.55	7.25	7.84
Mutton, Leg	"	7.10	7.25	7.15	7.10	7.30	7.20	7.35	7.60	7.10	6.70	6.35	6.35	7.05
" Shoulder	"	4.55	4.40	4.40	4.40	4.40	4.35	4.70	4.80	4.55	4.05	4.05	3.65	4.36
" Loin	"	6.95	7.05	6.95	6.85	6.75	6.80	6.80	6.95	6.85	6.65	6.40	6.20	6.76
" Neck	"	3.85	3.85	3.70	3.55	3.70	3.65	4.10	4.10	4.00	3.60	3.60	3.15	3.74
Chops, Loin	"	8.35	8.25	8.25	8.15	8.35	8.60	8.80	8.70	8.50	8.05	7.80	7.50	8.28
" Leg	"	8.61	8.56	8.61	8.56	8.67	8.67	8.78	8.83	8.83	8.39	8.11	8.06	8.56
" Neck	"	5.00	5.00	4.90	4.85	5.00	4.90	5.20	5.25	5.05	4.80	4.80	4.40	4.93
Pork, Leg	"	13.22	13.20	12.90	12.80	12.70	12.30	12.20	12.00	11.70	11.50	10.70	10.55	12.15
" Loin	"	13.56	13.50	13.40	13.30	12.80	12.75	12.55	12.65	12.00	11.50	11.05	10.25	12.44
" Belly	"	13.33	13.20	12.90	12.60	12.20	11.95	12.25	12.05	11.80	11.20	10.85	10.67	12.09
" Chops	"	14.56	14.20	14.00	13.80	13.30	13.50	13.50	13.20	12.90	12.25	11.75	10.75	13.14

SECTION II.—*continued.*

Average Retail Prices of Chief Food Items in Brisbane during each Month of the Year, 1930.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, Year, 1930.
Groceries, &c.—		*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Bread	2lb.	5.50	5.75	5.50	5.50	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.75	5.23
Flour	25 lb.	53.11	51.45	49.55	46.18	45.91	44.23	44.00	43.27	42.41	41.27	39.50	38.59	44.96
Tea	lb.	25.95	25.86	25.77	25.20	25.20	24.80	24.43	24.34	23.30	21.91	23.39	24.32	24.54
Coffee	,,	29.12	29.12	29.12	29.12	29.12	28.85	29.12	28.67	28.94	28.67	28.67	28.67	28.93
Sugar	,,	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46
Rice	,,	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.34	3.34	3.34	3.34	3.39	3.45	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.38
Sago	,,	2.98	2.98	2.95	2.90	2.90	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.86	2.86	2.89	2.88	2.90
Jam	,,	6.32	6.32	6.32	6.30	6.30	6.25	6.20	6.20	6.20	5.98	5.84	5.73	6.17
Oatmeal	,,	3.73	3.43	3.43	3.36	3.36	3.34	3.34	3.34	3.36	3.36	3.36	2.95	3.36
Raisins	,,	10.18	10.18	10.18	10.00	9.77	9.59	9.45	9.45	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.74
Currants	,,	9.55	9.50	9.45	9.36	8.91	9.00	8.91	8.95	8.95	8.91	8.82	8.73	9.09
Starch	,,	8.77	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.73	8.77	8.86	9.18	9.00	9.00	8.83
Blue	doz. sq.	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.45	11.41	11.41	11.41
Candles	lb.	10.45	10.45	10.36	10.45	10.55	10.45	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.55	10.59	10.59	10.51
Soap	,,	4.32	4.34	4.36	4.39	4.39	4.39	4.39	4.41	4.43	4.16	4.00	4.07	4.30
Potatoes	14 lb.	23.00	19.00	17.32	19.73	19.00	18.45	18.82	18.91	17.73	19.27	14.55	15.05	18.41
Onions	lb.	1.59	1.46	1.15	1.16	1.12	1.25	1.33	1.38	1.32	1.31	1.19	1.27	1.29
Kerosene	gal.	21.73	21.00	20.08	15.91	15.91	16.00	15.82	15.82	16.14	16.50	16.50	16.50	17.33
Dairy Produce—														
Milk	quart	7.30	7.30	7.25	7.25	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	6.95	6.70	6.60	6.60	7.04
Butter	lb.	24 95	24.95	23.00	22.68	22.91	23.91	23.91	23.91	21.91	20.91	19.91	19.82	22.73
Cheese	,,	14.73	14.32	14.41	14.41	14.68	14.86	14.23	14.41	12.91	12.14	10.64	9.50	13.44
Eggs	doz.	15.64	18.77	19.91	24.18	27.00	25.05	19.55	14.05	12.77	9.68	9.32	12.45	17.37
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	16.55	15.95	15.41	15.05	15.36	15.00	14.82	14.82	13.50	12.95	12.86	13.18	14.62
,, Shoulder ..	,,	11.27	10.91	9.95	9.86	9.59	8.27	8.95	8.91	8.09	8.18	8.27	8.68	9.25
Ham	,,	22.90	20.70	19.90	19.30	19.30	19.30	19.30	19.30	18.78	17.56	17.06	15.20	19.05
Meat—														
Beef, Sirloin ..	,,	9.00	9.00	8.70	8.50	8.40	8.25	8.25	8.35	8.25	8.00	7.95	7.95	8.39
,, Ribs	,,	6.43	6.45	6.15	6.05	5.70	5.60	5.60	5.60	5.55	5.50	5.55	5.55	5.81
,, Flank ..	,,	4.50	4.25	3.70	3.60	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.40	3.40	3.65
,, Shin ..	,,	4.30	4.30	4.10	4.05	3.90	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.90	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.95
Steak, Rump ..	,,	11.90	11.90	11.70	11.65	11.40	11.25	11.15	11.15	11.15	11.10	10.95	10.95	11.35
,, Shoulder ..	,,	6.40	6.40	6.15	6.10	5.90	5.90	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.60	5.60	5.91
,, Stewing ..	,,	5.50	5.35	5.10	5.15	4.90	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.40	4.50	4.40	4.40	4.69
Beef, Corned Roll ..	,,	8.45	8.45	8.15	7.95	7.50	7.40	7.40	7.30	7.35	7.20	7.05	7.05	7.61
,, Brisket, with bone	,,	4.60	4.55	4.20	4.10	3.95	3.95	3.90	3.85	3.90	3.75	3.75	3.75	4.02
,, without bone	,,	6.45	6.45	6.10	6.05	6.00	5.90	5.80	5.90	5.90	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.97
Mutton, Leg ..	,,	7.55	7.55	7.05	6.75	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.35	6.25	6.15	6.11	6.65
,, Shoulder ..	,,	4.90	5.00	4.70	4.30	4.25	4.25	4.10	4.10	3.75	3.75	3.65	3.61	4.20
,, Loin ..	,,	6.90	6.90	6.80	6.55	6.45	6.45	6.35	6.30	6.20	6.10	5.80	5.78	6.36
,, Neck ..	,,	2.35	2.00	2.00	2.20	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.90	1.85	1.85	1.99
Chops, Loin ..	,,	7.60	7.60	7.20	6.65	6.75	6.75	6.55	6.55	6.50	6.40	6.15	6.17	6.74
,, Leg ..	,,	7.75	7.75	7.50	6.85	6.95	6.95	6.85	6.85	6.70	6.60	6.35	6.39	6.96
,, Neck ..	,,	4.45	4.55	4.25	4.15	4.15	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.00	3.90	3.80	3.80	4.10
Pork, Leg ..	,,	12.10	12.05	11.95	11.20	11.10	11.10	11.05	10.80	10.80	10.15	9.85	9.67	10.98
,, Loin ..	,,	12.20	12.15	12.05	11.35	11.05	11.15	11.05	10.80	10.80	10.25	9.95	9.78	11.05
,, Belly ..	,,	9.75	9.85	9.95	9.20	9.20	9.20	9.20	9.00	8.90	8.40	8.10	8.00	9.06
,, Chops ..		12.25	12.25	12.05	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.25	11.25	10.75	10.00	9.83	11.30

Average Retail Prices of Chief Food Items in Adelaide during each Month of the Year, 1930.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, Year, 1930.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.50	4.50	5.17
Flour	25 lb.	50.00	50.00	48.80	46.40	45.95	44.10	43.35	42.80	41.40	39.50	36.15	34.60	43.59
Tea	lb.	26.70	26.70	26.65	25.75	22.50	22.30	22.30	22.90	22.25	22.45	25.05	25.35	24.24
Coffee	„	26.50	26.80	26.80	26.50	26.70	26.40	26.10	26.00	25.70	25.70	25.70	25.70	26.22
Sugar	„	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.45	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43	4.43
Rice	„	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.60	3.55	3.55	3.50	3.55	3.60	3.65	3.60	3.55	3.59
Sago	„	2.95	2.95	2.90	2.98	2.90	2.80	2.80	3.00	2.95	2.95	2.90	2.90	2.92
Jam	„	5.80	5.70	5.70	5.77	5.77	5.72	5.68	5.82	5.77	5.92	5.85	5.88	5.78
Oatmeal	„	3.42	3.46	3.33	3.31	3.28	3.25	3.25	3.20	3.13	3.10	3.12	2.96	3.23
Raisins	„	7.05	6.95	7.05	7.05	6.95	6.85	6.75	6.75	6.95	6.95	6.85	6.90	6.92
Currants	„	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.30	7.40	7.25	7.15	6.95	6.90	7.28
Starch	„	8.30	8.30	8.30	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.10	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.28
Blue	doz. sq.	12.00	11.65	12.00	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.80	11.85	11.85	11.85	11.77
Candles	lb.	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.65	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.95	10.95	10.71
Soap	„	4.92	4.92	4.82	4.82	4.62	4.40	4.42	4.45	4.64	4.56	4.30	4.30	4.60
Potatoes	14 lb.	17.71	12.57	13.86	17.43	17.43	16.14	15.71	15.00	13.14	13.43	14.86	13.43	15.06
Onions	lb.	1.43	1.25	1.29	1.39	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.07	1.00	1.03	1.07	1.07	1.20
Kerosene	gal.	21.85	21.85	21.15	20.55	20.45	19.65	19.45	19.50	19.50	19.60	19.99	19.99	20.30
Dairy Produce—														
Milk	quart	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.90	7.88	7.10	7.00	7.75
Butter	lb.	23.30	24.05	23.30	23.25	23.15	23.55	23.50	20.40	18.75	17.70	16.15	16.90	21.17
Cheese	„	14.20	14.65	14.40	14.40	14.60	14.75	13.85	13.10	12.85	11.30	10.45	9.75	13.19
Eggs	doz.	13.55	12.25	16.70	21.25	22.00	20.30	16.45	14.10	10.45	10.00	9.45	10.90	14.79
Bacon, Middle	lb.	18.15	18.05	18.05	17.60	17.90	16.20	15.05	14.85	15.00	14.60	13.35	12.65	15.95
„ Shoulder	„	13.25	13.25	13.50	13.25	13.25	11.69	10.78	10.78	11.00	11.11	10.31	9.75	11.83
Ham	„	20.44	20.50	20.38	20.31	20.06	18.31	16.11	16.33	16.44	16.22	15.44	15.33	17.99
Meat—														
Beef, Sirloin	„	11.60	11.60	11.80	11.60	11.50	10.80	10.30	10.30	9.80	9.55	9.50	9.20	10.63
„ Ribs	„	9.60	9.50	9.90	9.70	9.70	8.80	8.40	8.10	7.50	7.55	7.60	7.25	8.64
„ Flank	„	11.10	11.20	11.40	11.10	11.11	10.33	10.00	10.00	9.33	9.00	9.22	9.00	10.23
„ Shin	„	7.90	7.90	8.00	7.60	8.00	7.70	7.50	7.20	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.80	7.49
Steak, Rump	„	16.60	16.50	16.20	16.30	16.10	15.60	15.50	15.40	14.90	14.90	14.40	13.90	15.53
„ Shoulder	„	10.90	10.80	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.30	10.10	9.90	9.70	9.50	9.50	9.20	10.22
„ Stewing	„	10.20	10.10	10.30	10.40	10.20	9.70	9.40	9.10	8.80	8.70	8.80	8.40	9.51
Beef, Corned Roll	„	11.80	11.80	11.80	11.80	11.50	11.00	10.55	10.55	10.15	10.05	10.15	9.90	10.92
„ Brisket, with bone	„	7.75	7.50	7.38	7.38	7.38	7.63	7.13	6.13	6.25	6.25	6.25	5.88	6.91
„ „ without bone	„	9.25	9.20	9.10	9.10	9.00	8.35	8.15	8.15	7.90	7.80	7.75	7.65	8.45
Mutton, Leg	„	9.50	9.45	9.25	9.15	8.75	8.60	8.60	8.35	8.25	8.05	7.80	7.60	8.61
„ Shoulder	„	8.05	7.80	7.65	7.75	7.70	7.15	7.15	7.00	6.95	6.85	6.55	6.30	7.24
„ Loin	„	9.30	8.90	8.35	8.85	8.50	8.15	7.80	7.85	7.70	7.70	7.35	7.35	8.15
„ Neck	„	6.80	6.60	6.45	6.65	6.35	6.00	5.95	6.05	5.85	5.70	5.80	5.50	6.14
Chops, Loin	„	10.30	10.30	9.80	9.50	9.80	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.10	8.70	8.50	8.60	9.37
„ Leg	„	11.20	11.40	11.00	11.00	10.90	10.60	10.30	10.20	10.00	9.70	9.65	9.50	10.46
„ Neck	„	8.30	8.30	8.00	7.80	7.56	7.30	7.10	7.30	7.10	7.00	6.95	6.90	7.47
Pork, Leg	„	13.70	13.50	13.40	13.10	12.50	11.60	11.20	11.00	10.90	10.40	10.20	9.80	11.79
„ Loin	„	14.20	14.10	13.90	13.50	13.20	12.30	12.10	11.60	11.50	11.10	10.70	10.10	12.36
„ Belly	„	14.30	14.20	13.40	13.50	13.20	12.40	12.00	11.30	11.40	11.00	10.50	10.00	12.27
„ Chops	„	14.80	14.70	14.70	14.10	14.00	13.00	12.90	12.20	12.20	11.70	11.30	10.80	13.03

SECTION II.—*continued.*

Average Retail Prices of Chief Food Items in Perth during each Month of the Year, 1930.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, Year, 1930.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.46
Flour	25 lb.	54.60	54.60	53.40	51.00	51.00	50.10	48.00	47.10	42.60	40.50	38.30	37.40	47.38
Tea	lb.	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.40	26.10	26.10	25.10	24.90	26.10	26.80	26.13
Coffee	,,	22.60	22.50	22.50	22.60	22.60	22.60	22.60	22.60	22.60	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.56
Sugar	,,	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.67
Rice	,,	3.50	3.53	3.48	3.48	3.48	3.53	3.48	3.75	3.90	3.88	3.93	3.88	3.65
Sago	,,	3.18	3.18	3.13	3.03	3.08	3.13	3.28	3.50	3.60	3.58	3.48	3.43	3.30
Jam	,,	6.83	6.77	6.90	6.80	6.80	6.63	6.63	6.63	6.60	6.57	6.93	6.95	6.75
Oatmeal	,,	3.91	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.84	3.84	3.77	3.75	3.67	3.62	3.63	3.68	3.78
Raisins	,,	8.20	8.15	8.15	8.15	8.25	8.30	8.30	8.20	8.25	8.15	8.30	8.30	8.23
Currants	,,	8.60	8.45	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.65	8.65	8.50	8.55	8.45	8.55	8.50	8.55
Starch	,,	9.20	9.25	9.10	9.00	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.90	8.80	8.80	8.95
Blue	doz. sq.	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.20	16.15	16.30	16.30	16.25
Candles	lb.	11.40	11.43	11.43	11.43	11.43	11.35	11.35	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.35	11.35	11.37
Soap	,,	5.60	5.46	5.56	5.57	5.56	5.56	5.56	5.48	5.53	5.04	5.34	5.37	5.47
Potatoes	14 lb.	16.00	13.90	14.80	16.40	19.10	20.20	19.40	18.90	15.40	10.05	8.40	9.10	15.13
Onions	lb.	2.30	1.99	2.10	2.10	2.00	2.00	1.90	1.87	1.85	1.85	1.75	1.65	1.94
Kerosene	gal.	22.36	22.06	21.68	21.68	21.68	21.68	21.38	21.75	22.21	21.91	22.55	22.55	21.96
Dairy Produce—														
Milk	quart	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.44	8.44	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.40	8.30	8.46
Butter	lb.	24.10	24.30	23.80	23.70	23.70	23.50	23.30	22.90	20.90	20.20	18.40	17.90	22.23
Cheese	,,	15.40	15.30	15.30	15.30	15.40	15.40	15.30	15.40	14.20	13.20	12.40	11.70	14.53
Eggs	doz.	17.70	18.40	23.50	29.00	29.80	22.00	20.30	11.20	9.80	9.50	9.30	9.30	17.49
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	20.10	19.70	20.00	20.10	20.10	19.70	19.40	18.90	18.60	18.30	17.80	17.60	19.19
,, Shoulder ..	,,	11.60	11.00	11.00	10.80	11.00	10.75	10.30	9.90	9.80	9.35	9.25	9.20	10.33
Ham	,,	22.90	22.80	23.10	22.90	22.90	22.60	22.50	22.00	21.70	21.20	20.30	19.90	22.07
Meat—														
Beef, Sirloin ..	,,	10.85	10.65	10.75	11.30	11.40	10.50	10.30	9.70	9.10	9.00	8.70	8.80	10.09
,, Ribs ..	,,	9.00	8.95	9.00	9.50	9.40	8.90	8.40	8.10	7.40	7.50	7.10	7.10	8.36
,, Flank ..	,,	9.50	8.75	9.40	9.80	9.90	9.60	9.30	9.10	8.40	8.60	8.60	8.40	9.11
,, Shin ..	,,	8.00	7.80	8.10	8.00	8.40	7.90	7.60	7.50	7.00	7.10	6.90	6.90	7.60
Steak, Rump ..	,,	17.20	17.20	17.20	17.30	17.50	16.70	16.60	15.80	15.50	15.60	15.70	15.70	16.50
,, Shoulder ..	,,	10.40	10.50	10.40	10.50	10.80	10.20	10.10	9.70	8.70	8.90	8.20	8.30	9.73
,, Stewing ..	,,	9.20	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.60	9.10	8.90	8.40	7.50	8.10	7.30	7.20	8.63
Beef, Corned Roll ..	,,	10.10	10.00	10.00	10.40	10.40	9.80	9.50	9.40	8.80	8.90	8.70	8.60	9.55
Brisket with bone	,,	6.45	6.30	6.10	6.50	6.80	6.40	6.20	5.70	5.15	5.40	5.25	5.20	5.95
,, ,, without bone	,,	8.20	7.90	7.90	7.90	8.30	7.70	7.50	7.20	6.70	6.90	6.85	6.70	7.48
Mutton, Leg ..	,,	10.00	9.70	9.65	9.25	9.00	8.40	8.30	7.45	6.60	6.25	5.80	6.05	8.03
,, Shoulder ..	,,	6.50	5.90	6.40	5.90	6.30	5.70	5.55	5.10	4.65	4.30	4.10	4.20	5.39
,, Loin ..	,,	9.10	9.10	9.00	8.80	8.70	8.40	8.30	7.40	6.75	6.40	5.70	5.75	7.78
,, Neck ..	,,	6.30	5.80	6.05	6.00	6.10	5.50	5.70	5.10	4.65	4.05	4.05	4.05	5.28
Chops, Loin ..	,,	10.10	10.00	10.10	9.80	9.50	9.00	8.70	8.40	8.15	7.30	6.65	6.45	8.68
,, Leg ..	,,	10.90	10.70	11.00	10.30	9.90	9.60	9.90	9.10	8.25	7.40	7.05	7.05	9.26
,, Neck ..	,,	7.50	7.40	7.30	6.85	6.85	6.70	6.40	6.10	5.55	5.20	4.65	4.55	6.26
Pork, Leg ..	,,	15.60	15.00	14.90	14.80	14.10	13.30	13.20	12.40	12.00	11.40	10.65	11.00	13.20
,, Loin ..	,,	15.40	15.00	15.00	14.70	14.30	13.40	13.50	12.40	11.60	11.30	10.40	10.70	13.14
,, Belly ..	,,	13.00	12.40	12.50	12.30	12.30	11.40	11.40	10.60	9.60	9.40	8.60	8.90	11.03
,, Chops ..	,,	15.70	15.30	15.10	15.10	14.90	14.10	14.20	13.60	12.80	12.10	11.40	11.20	13.79

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, Year, 1930.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—														
Bread	2 lb.	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	5.19
Flour	25 lb.	54.45	53.55	52.45	50.94	50.05	50.65	49.05	48.75	45.90	42.50	39.45	36.90	47.89
Tea	lb.	26.60	26.20	25.60	25.80	25.60	25.30	25.50	25.40	25.40	25.70	26.60	27.00	25.89
Coffee	,,	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80	23.80
Sugar	,,	4.50	4.49	4.49	4.49	4.49	4.49	4.49	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
Rice	,,	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.85	3.85	3.89
Sago	,,	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.75	3.70	3.65	3.78
Jam	,,	6.77	6.50	6.37	6.40	6.33	6.40	6.67	6.87	6.73	6.70	6.73	6.75	6.61
Oatmeal	,,	4.03	4.08	4.10	4.03	4.05	4.00	3.95	3.93	3.83	3.78	3.68	3.75	3.91
Raisins	,,	10.25	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.85	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.85	9.70	9.80	9.50	9.81
Currants	,,	9.60	9.60	9.70	9.60	9.50	9.40	9.40	9.40	9.25	9.15	9.15	9.05	9.40
Starch	,,	10.30	10.25	10.25	10.20	10.05	10.05	10.05	10.10	10.30	10.30	10.35	10.45	10.22
Blue	doz. sq.	11.45	11.45	11.45	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.60
Candles	lb.	10.70	10.70	10.60	10.55	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.70	10.70	10.85	10.65
Soap	,,	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.15	5.28	5.28	5.18	5.18	5.15
Potatoes	14 lb.	22.67	20.52	17.94	21.50	20.28	19.11	18.33	17.89	16.61	15.17	15.64	19.43	18.76
Onions	lb.	2.39	2.22	1.89	1.75	1.69	1.72	1.72	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.89	1.89	1.87
Kerosene	gal.	25.16	25.16	25.16	25.16	25.16	25.16	25.16	25.16	25.31	25.31	25.71	25.24	25.24
Dairy Produce—														
Milk	quart	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.40	7.00	7.00	7.78
Butter	lb.	22.10	22.00	22.20	22.20	23.10	23.20	23.70	22.60	21.00	18.90	17.30	15.85	21.18
Cheese	,,	15.00	15.10	15.10	14.90	14.90	15.10	15.20	15.20	15.00	14.70	13.70	13.30	14.78
Eggs	doz.	15.50	16.50	20.20	23.44	28.70	24.70	18.40	15.50	12.10	11.20	11.70	15.00	17.74
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	18.11	18.11	18.11	18.00	17.89	18.00	17.67	17.67	16.44	15.67	15.11	15.00	17.15
,, Shoulder ..	,,	10.67	10.56	10.44	10.44	10.33	10.50	10.22	9.89	8.89	8.67	8.50	8.56	9.81
Ham	,,	20.00	19.60	19.60	19.50	19.60	19.20	18.40	18.00	18.25	17.40	16.67	17.00	18.60
Meat—														
Beef, Sirloin ..	,,	10.33	10.44	10.44	10.40	10.40	10.20	10.20	10.30	10.20	10.10	10.10	9.80	10.24
,, Ribs ..	,,	9.00	9.00	8.89	8.80	8.80	8.70	8.60	8.60	8.30	8.10	8.30	8.00	8.59
,, Flank ..	,,	7.44	7.44	7.33	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	6.80	7.00	6.90	6.80	6.70	7.09
,, Shin ..	,,	6.38	6.50	6.50	6.11	5.78	5.67	5.67	5.67	5.78	5.56	5.89	5.33	5.90
Steak, Rump ..	,,	15.44	15.89	16.00	15.80	15.80	15.30	15.20	15.40	15.00	14.80	15.00	15.00	15.39
,, Shoulder ..	,,	8.44	8.55	8.33	8.40	8.20	8.10	8.30	8.40	8.10	8.10	8.40	8.00	8.28
,, Stewing ..	,,	8.33	8.33	8.22	8.30	8.20	8.00	7.80	7.80	7.90	8.00	7.80	7.60	8.02
Beef, Corned Roll ..	,,	10.33	10.11	10.11	9.90	9.90	9.70	9.70	9.80	9.50	9.50	9.80	9.70	9.84
,, Brisket, with bone	,,	5.61	5.44	5.50	5.45	5.35	5.30	5.25	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.35	5.25	5.41
,, ,, without bone	,,	8.75	8.75	8.88	8.33	8.56	8.22	8.22	8.22	8.00	8.11	8.22	8.22	8.37
Mutton, Leg ..	,,	8.44	8.28	8.28	8.05	8.05	7.60	7.40	7.90	7.85	7.80	7.70	7.30	7.89
,, Shoulder ..	,,	6.11	6.11	6.11	6.00	6.20	5.80	5.70	6.00	5.75	5.75	5.90	5.35	5.90
,, Loin ..	,,	8.11	8.00	7.78	7.80	8.00	7.60	7.50	7.60	7.40	7.40	7.60	7.00	7.65
,, Neck ..	,,	6.33	6.00	6.11	5.90	5.90	5.70	5.55	6.00	5.90	5.85	5.85	5.30	5.87
Chops, Loin ..	,,	11.22	10.67	10.89	10.80	10.80	10.60	10.00	10.50	10.60	10.15	10.10	9.80	10.51
,, Leg ..	,,	11.11	11.33	10.67	10.90	10.80	10.50	10.10	10.50	10.30	10.40	10.30	9.90	10.57
,, Neck ..	,,	7.55	7.56	7.56	7.50	7.50	7.40	7.00	7.50	7.60	7.40	7.40	6.80	7.40
Pork, Leg ..	,,	12.33	12.22	12.22	12.20	12.10	11.50	11.70	12.00	11.50	11.60	11.40	11.10	11.82
,, Loin ..	,,	12.67	12.78	12.56	12.45	12.40	12.00	12.20	12.10	12.20	12.00	12.10	11.60	12.26
,, Belly ..	,,	12.33	12.33	12.33	12.10	12.10	11.60	11.60	11.90	11.30	11.30	11.50	11.20	11.80
,, Chops ..	,,	13.55	13.56	13.33	13.40	13.40	12.80	13.20	13.20	12.80	12.80	12.90	12.20	13.10

Section III.

Weekly House Rents(a) in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1926 to 1930.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.				
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
NEW SOUTH WALES—					
Sydney	24 7	24 5	25 2	25 7	26 4
Newcastle	22 10	23 4	24 0	23 10	23 0
Broken Hill	14 10	15 3	15 5	15 5	16 0
Goulburn	23 5	25 0	26 0	27 3	26 0
Bathurst	19 7	19 1	19 6	19 4	21 6
Weighted Average	**24 2**	**24 1**	**24 9**	**25 1**	**25 9**
VICTORIA—					
Melbourne	22 10	23 0	23 11	24 1	22 3
Ballarat	13 9	13 11	14 10	15 6	15 4
Bendigo	16 1	17 4	17 5	18 0	16 6
Geelong	21 1	21 11	21 7	20 8	19 5
Warrnambool	16 3	17 5	18 3	18 8	19 0
Weighted Average	**22 1**	**22 4**	**23 2**	**23 4**	**21 7**
QUEENSLAND—					
Brisbane	17 11	18 4	18 6	18 6	17 1
Toowoomba	16 3	16 4	16 0	15 10	16 0
Rockhampton	14 7	15 4	14 4	13 11	15 1
Charters Towers	12 6	12 5	14 11	16 5	15 10
Warwick	15 9	16 5	14 11	14 11	14 8
Weighted Average	**17 3**	**17 8**	**17 8**	**17 9**	**16 8**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—					
Adelaide	20 5	20 9	22 6	21 8	20 2
Kadina, etc.	11 1	11 2	10 7	9 9	8 9
Port Pirie	15 3	15 5	15 5	15 4	15 9
Mount Gambier	11 8	11 3	12 1	12 4	12 11
Peterborough	16 5	17 7	16 11	17 11	17 10
Weighted Average	**19 8**	**20 9**	**21 6**	**20 9**	**19 5**
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—					
Perth	19 9	20 3	20 8	21 0	21 7
Kalgoorlie	12 1	11 11	11 11	11 11	14 10
Northam	18 10	19 8	20 2	20 2	19 10
Bunbury	15 7	15 8	14 9	14 10	17 3
Geraldton	18 11	19 2	21 0	21 8	23 5
Weighted Average	**18 10**	**19 3**	**19 8**	**19 11**	**20 7**
TASMANIA—					
Hobart	21 11	21 3	20 8	20 6	20 1
Launceston	17 6	17 4	18 7	18 3	17 9
Burnie	17 3	16 11	17 2	17 2	16 0
Devonport	16 8	16 4	15 8	16 2	17 0
Queenstown	8 9	9 4	10 1	11 5	14 6
Weighted Average	**19 9**	**19 4**	**19 4**	**19 3**	**18 10**
Weighted Average, Australia	**21 10**	**22 0**	**22 8**	**22 10**	**22 4**

(a) The rents are shown to the nearest penny.

Section IV.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work, at 31st December, 1930.

NOTE.—Ruling or predominant rates of wage are distinguished from Award, Determination or Industrial Agreement rates of wage by an (*a*). Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are forty-eight, *vide* footnotes below. Award, Determination or Agreement Rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at the 31st December, 1930. Where two or more Award, Determination or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say), 89s. 6d. to 96s.; indicating that in addition to the two rates specified, there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 95s. and 100s., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates.

GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coopering—						
Coopers	112 0	[6]129 0	[3]109 6	102 6	[6]115 0	[6]110 0
Furniture—						
Cabinetmakers ..	[6]108 6	109 6	[6]102 11	107 6	[6]110 0	107 6
Carpet Planners ..	[6]107 6	109 6	..	107 6	91 0	107 6
Chairmakers ..	[6]108 6	109 6	[6]102 11	107 6	[6]110 0	107 6
French Polishers ..	[6]108 6	109 6	[6]102 11	107 6	[6]107 0	107 6
Upholsterers ..	[6]108 6	107 6	[6]102 11	105 6	[6]110 0	105 6
Woodcarvers ..	[6]108 6	109 6	[6]102 11	107 6	[6]110 0	107 6
Wood Machinists ..	[6]108 6	94/6 to 109/6	[6]102 11	92/6 to 107/6	[6]107/ & 110/	92/6 to 107/6
Mattress Making—Wire—						
Finishers	[6]103 6	100 6	[6] 96 6	98 6	..	98 6
Makers	[6]103 6	100 6	[6] 96 6	98 6	[6]104 0	98 6
Picture Framing—						
Compo. Workers ..	102 6	94 6	[6] 96 0	92 6	[6]101 0	83 6
General Hands ..	102 6	95 6	[6] 96 0	85 6		
Gilders	102 6	97 6	[6] 96 0	95 6		
Mount Cutters ..	102 6	97 6	[6] 96 0	95 6		
Saw Milling and Timber Yards—						
Box and Casemakers..	100 0	95 0	[6] 85 8	90 0	91 0	94 0
Labourers	88 0	83 0	[6] 84 9	78 0	79 0	82 0
Machinists—						
Box Printing ..	91 0	86 0	[6] 85 8	81 0	82 0	85 0
Boults Carver ..	109 0	104 0	[6] 91 3	99 0	100 0	103 0
Nailing	94 0	89 0	[6] 85 8	84 0	85 0	88 0
Planing	100/ to 106/	95/ to 101/	[6] 90 4	90/ to 96/	91/ to 97/	94/ to 100/
Shaping	109 0	104 0	[6]104 1	99 0	100 0	103 0
Ordermen	100 0	95 0	[6] 87 7	90 0	91 .0	94 0
Saw Doctors ..	118 0	113 0	[6]100 5	108 0	109 0	112 0
Sawyers—						
Band or Jig ..	100/ to 112/	95/ to 107/	[6] 93 1	90/ to 102/	91/ to 103/	94/ to 106/
Circular	98/ to 106/	93/ to 101/	[6] 90 4	88/ to 96/	89/ to 97/	92/ to 100/
Stackers	94 0	89 0	[6]100 5	84 0	85 0	88 0
Wood Turners ..	109 0	104 0	[6] 94 0	99 0	100 0	103 0

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Agricultural Implements—						
Assemblers ..	[6] 92 0	91 0	[6] 86 0	86 6	[6] 98 0	..
Bulldozermen ..	[6] 90 6	97 0	..	92 6	[6]104 0	..
Drillers	[6] 90 6	90 0	..	85 6	[6] 98 0	..
Fitters	[6]94/ & 104/	97/ to 101/6	..	92/6 to 97/	[6]110 0	..
Labourers—unskilled	[6] 82 6	86 6	..	82 0	[6] 86 0	..
Machinists—Iron ..	[6]90/6 & 98/	94 0	..	89 6	[6]108 0	..
Painters—Brush ..	[6] 83 0	89 6	..	85 0	..	..
Scroll ..	[6] 90 0	101 6	..	97 0	..	..
Patternmakers ..	[6]112 0	109 6	..	105 0	[6]119 0	..
Sheet Iron Workers ..	[6] 90 6	101 6	..	97 0	..	..
Strikers	[6] 83 0	91 0	..	86 6	[6] 89 0	..

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(3*a*) 35 hours. (4) 36 hours. (4*b*) 40 hours. (5) 42 hours. (5*a*) 43 hours. (6) 44 hours. (7) 44½ hours. (8) 45 hours. (10) 46 hours. (10*a*) 46½ hours. (11) 46½ hours—Daylight, 48 hours, artificial light, 45 hours. (12) 47 hours. (12*a*) 47½ hours. (13) 47½ hours. (28) 56 hours. (38*a*) 88 hours per fortnight. (38*b*) 86 hours per fortnight. (39*a*) 96 hours per fortnight. (64) 48 hours (summer), 46 hours (winter).

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Boiler Making—						
Journeymen ..	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Railwaymen ..	[6]117 6	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]113 0	[6]106 0
Brassworking—						
Coremakers ..	[6]97/ to 112/	[6]92/6 & 107/6	[6]100 8	[6]87/ & 102/	[6]110 0	[6]91/6 & 106/6
Dressers	[6]96 to 98/	[6]91/6 & 93/6	[6] 81 4	[6]86/ & 88/	[6] 92 0	[6]90/6 & 92/6
Finishers	[6]104/ to 112/	[6]99/6 & 107/6	[6]100 8	[6]94/ & 102/	110 0	[6]98/ & 106/6
Furnacemen ..	[6]100 0	[6] 95 6	[6]81/4 to 90/8	[6] 86 0	[6]104 0	[6] 90 6
Moulders	[6]97/ & 112/	[6]92/6 & 107/6	[6]97/ to 100/8	[6]87/ & 102/	[6]110 0	[6]91/6 & 106/6
Cycles—						
Assemblers ..	[6] 92 0	95/ & 100/	[6]92/4 & 100/8	90/ to 108/6	[6]92/ & 101/	80 0
Frame Builders ..	[6] 93 4	100/ & 102/6	[6]100 8	90/ to 108/6	..	80 0
Repairers	[6] 93 4	100 0	[6]100 8	90/ to 108/6	..	80 0
Turners (Motor) ..	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]104 4	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Electrical Installation—						
Cable Jointers ..	118 6	107/6 & 109/6	[6]101 1	102/ & 104/	..	106/6 & 108/6
Fitters	118 6	[6]109 6	[6]103 10	[6]104 0	[6]110 0	[6]108 6
Mechanics	112 6	103 6	[6]101 1	98 0	[6]110 0	102 6
Patrolmen	..	93/6 & 103/6	[6] 82 9	88/ & 98/	..	92/6 & 102/6
Wiremen	112 6	103 6	[6]101 1	98 0	[6]104 0	102 0
Other Adults ..	..	83 6	[6] 80 0	78 0	[6] 86 0	82 6
Electrical Supply—						
Armature Winders ..	118 6	109 6	[6]103 10	104 0	[6]110 0	108 6
Cable Jointers ..	118 6	107/6 & 109/6	[6]101 1	102/ & 104/	..	106/6 & 108/6
Instrument Makers ..	118 6	109 6	[6]103 10	104 0	[6]110 0	108 6
Linesmen	112 6	103 6	[6]101 1	98 0	[6]104 0	102 6
Meter Testers ..	112 6	98/6 & 102/	[6]101 1	93/ & 96/6	..	97/6 & 101/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	93/6 & 103/6	[6] 82 9	88/ & 98/	..	92/6 & 102/6
Shift Electricians ..	118 6	103/6 & 109/6	[6]113 10	..	..	102/6 & 108/6
Switchboard Attendants	..	102 0	[6] 80 0	96 6	..	101 0
Other Adults ..	..	83 6	[6] 80 0	78 0	..	82 6
Electrical Trades—						
Fitters	118 6	[6]109 6	[6]103 10	[6]104 0	[6]110 0	[6]108 6
Mechanics	112 6	103 6	[6]101 1	98 0	[6]110 0	102 6
Wiremen	112 6	103 6	[6]101 1	98 0	[6]104 0	102 6
Electroplating—						
Platers	[6]104 & 112/	[6]99/6 & 107/6	[6] 91 0	[6]94/ & 102/	[6]110 0	[6]98/6 & 106/6
Polishers	[6]98/6 to 103/	105 0	[6]85/6 to 91/	97 6	..	..
Engineering—						
Blacksmiths ..	[6]113 0	[6]108 6	[6]104 4	[6]103 0	[6]110 0	[6]107 6
Borers and Slotters ..	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Brassfinishers ..	[6]110/ & 112/	[6]99/6 & 107/6	[6]100 8	[6]94/ & 102/	[6]110 0	[6]98/6 & 106/6
Coppersmiths ..	[6]113 0	[6]108 6	[6]104 4	[6]103 0	[6]110 0	[6]107 6
Drillers—Radial ..	[6]100 0	[6] 95 6	[6] 88 8	[6] 90 0	[6]110 0	[6] 94 6
Fitters	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Millers	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Pattern Makers ..	[6]121 0	[6]116 6	[6]106 0	[6]111 0	[6]119 0	[6]115 6
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge	[6]104 0	[6] 99 6	[6] 86 0	[6] 94 0	[6]102 0	[6] 98 6
Other	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Shapers	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Turners	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	[6]110 0	[6]106 6
Ironworking—Assistants—						
Boilermakers' Helpers	[6] 94 0	[6] 89 6	[6] 81 4	[6] 84 0	[6] 92 0	[6] 88 6
,, Labourers	[6] 94 0	[6] 89 6	[6] 81 4	[6] 84 0	[6] 86 0	[6] 88 6
Engineers' Labourers	[6] 94 0	[6] 89 6	[6] 79 8	[6] 84 0	[6] 92 0	[6] 88 6
Furnacemen's Assists.	[6] 94 0	[6] 89 6	[6] 79 8	[6] 84 0	[6] 92 0	[6] 88 6
Moulders' Labourers..	[6] 94 0	[6] 89 6	[6] 79 8	[6] 84 0	[6] 92 0	[6] 88 6
Strikers	[6]94/ & 96/	[6]89/6 & 91/6	[6] 81 4	[6]84/ & 86/	[6] 98 0	[6]88/6 & 90/6

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Moulding—Iron—						
Coremakers—Machine	[6] 97 0	[6] 92 6	[6]100 8	[6] 87 0	110 0	[6] 91 6
„ Other ..	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	110 0	[6]106 6
Dressers and Fettlers	96 0	[6] 91 6	[6] 81 4	[6] 86 0	[6] 92 0	[6] 90 6
Furnacemen ..	102/ & 103/	[6]97/6 & 98/6	[6]81/4 to 90/8	[6]92/ & 93/	[6]104 0	[6]96/6 & 97/6
Moulders—Machine ..	[6] 97 0	[6] 92 6	[6] 97 0	[6] 89 0	110 0	[6] 93 6
„ Other ..	[6]112 0	[6]107 6	[6]100 8	[6]102 0	110 0	[6]106 6
Sheet Metal Working—						
Canister Makers ..	[6] 89 0	93/ & 98/	[6] 92 4	97 6	99 0	108/ & 112/
Japanners—Coating or Brushwork	[6] 97 6	98 0	[6] 94 2	93 0	..	..
Ornamental ..	[6]100 0	105 0	[6] 94 2	105 0	..	..
Solderers	[6]89/ & 93/	98/ & 101/	[6] 94 2	91 6	99/ & 106/6	..
Tinsmiths	[6]103 0	105/6 & 114/	[6] 94 2	102/ & 109/	106/6 & 115/	108 0
Nailmaking—						
Case Wirers ..	[6] 88 6	86 0	..	75 0	..	..
Labourers	[6] 88 6	86 0	..	75 0	..	..
Setters Up	[6]107 6	97 0	..	75/ to 89/6	..	..
Wire Working—						
Journeymen ..	[6]102 6	100 0	..	90 0	97 6	89/ to 105/

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Aerated Water and Cordials—						
Bottlers	[6]90/6 to 93/	85/6 to 88/	[6] 77 0	93 0	91 0	94 6
Drivers (Motor) ..	[6]95/ to 103/	[6a]88/6 to 96/6	86/ to 94/	[6a]88/6 to 96/6	98 0	[6a]88/6 to 96/6
„ (One Horse)..	[6] 90 0	[6a] 83 6	84 0	[6a]83 6	98 0	[6a] 83 6
Packers	[6] 88 0	83 0	[6] 77 0	90 0	91 0	92 6
Wirers	[6] 88 0	83 0	..	90 0	91 0	92 6
Baking (Bread)—						
Board Hands ..	[6]128 6	[6] 128 4	[6]95/ to 100/	107 6	[6]110 0	107 0
Carters (One Horse) ..	[6]108 6	[3a]100 0	[6] 86 0	96 6	96 6	83 6
Doughmen	[6]131/ & 133/6	[6]128 4	[6]102 6	107 6	[6]115 0	107 0
Ovenmen	[6]133 6	[6]128 4	[6]100 0	107 6	[6]112 6	107 0
Singlehands ..	[6]133 6	[6]139 4	[6]102 6	112 6	[6]115 0	107 0
Baking (Biscuits and Cakes)—						
Adult Males ..	[6] 91 0	85 6	[6] 77 0	75 0	96 0	83 0
Bakers	[6]106 0	95 6	[6] 84 6	80 0	106 0	92 6
Mixers	[6] 97 0	95 6	[6] 84 6	78 0	106 0	96 0
Brewing—						
Adult Males ..	[6]100 0	[6]100 0	[6] 85 0	[6] 97 6	[6]101 0	92 6
Bottlers and Washers	[6]100 0	[6]100 0	[6] 85 0	[6] 97 6	[6]101 0	92 6
Cellarmen	[6]103 0	[6]103 3	[6] 90 0	[6] 97 6	[6]101/ & 106/	92 6
Drivers (Two Horses)	[6]103 0	88 6	[6] 90 0	[6]100 6	[6]101 0	88 6
„ (Motor under 3 tons)	[6]109 0	88/6 to 92/6	[6]87/ to 95/	[6]103 6	..	88/6 to 92/6
Towermen	[6]102 0	[6]104 0	[6] 85 0	[6]100 6	[6]101 0	94 6
Butchering (Carcase)—						
Chilling Room Hands	[6] 98 6	..	[6] 94 6	95 0	[6] 91 0	..
Labourers (Beef) ..	[6]102 6	[10] 91 0	[6] 82 0	95 0	[6] 96 0	82 6
„ (Mutton) ..	[6] 94 0	[10] 91 0	[6] 82 0	95 0	[6] 96 0	82 6
Scalders	[6]114 6	99 0	[6] 94 6	109 0	[6]96/ & 113/6	..
Slaughtermen (Beef)	[6]142 6	[10]120 0	[6]104 6	[7]130 0	[6]113 6	120 0
„ (Mutton)	(*a*)	[10]120 0	[6]104 6	[7]130 0	[6]113 6	120 0

(*a*) Piecework rates.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Butchering (Retail)—						
Carters (Cash Cutting)	109 6	101 6	[6] 94 6	96 0	106 0	95 0
„	92 0	89 0	[6] 85/6 & 88/6	83 6	91 0	..
General Hands ..	97 0	101 6	[6] 94 6	96 0	106 0	95 0
Shopmen	102/ to 109/6	101 6	[6] 94 6	96 0	106/ & 111/	95 0
Smallgoodsmen ..	111 0	99 0	[6]94 6	93 6	106/ & 111/	102 6
Cold Storage and Ice—						
Chamber Hands ..	[6]98/6 & 102/6	[6]110 0	[6]120 9	91/ to 100/	88 6	85 6
Pullers and Stackers..	[6]93 6	[6]110 0	[6]126 3	86/ to 95/	88 6	85 6
Confectionery—						
Journeymen ..	106 4	98 0	[6] 84 6	80/ & 85/6	[6]110 0	97 9
Storemen	83 6	94 0	[6] 81 0	75 0	98 6	90/3 to 95/3
Ham and Bacon Curing—						
Curers—First Hand..	118 6	108 6	[6]106 0	106 6	114 0	102 6
Cutters Up—First Hand	104 6	101 0	[6]100 0	99 0	104 6	95 0
Ham Baggers ..	..	94 0	[6] 94 0	92 0	99 6	95 0
Lardmen	91 0	94/ to 101/	[6] 94 0	92 0	104 6	95 0
Rollers and Trimmers	96 0	101 0	[6] 87 9	99 0	99/6 & 104/6	95 0
Scalders	91 0	101 0	[6] 96 6	99 0	107 0	95 0
Slaughtermen ..	105 0	108 6	[6]106 0	106 6	114 0	120 0
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	111 0	108 6	[6]106 0	106 6	114 0	102 6
Smokers—First Hand	97 0	101 0	[6]100 0	99 0	99 6	95 0
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Adult Males ..	87 6	87 6	[6] 77 0	87 6	91 0	87 6
Solderers	94 6	94 6	[6] 94 2	94 6	91 0	94 6
Malting—						
Maltsters	[6]100/ & 102/	100 0	[6] 77 0	[6]103 6	[6]101 0	83 0
Milling—Condiments—						
Grinders	[6] 97 0	86 0	[6] 78 6	81 0	..	80 0
Mixers or Blenders ..	[6] 90 0	88 0	[6] 78 6	83 0	..	80 0
Stone Dressers ..	[6] 97 6	93 6	[6] 78 6	88 6	..	80 0
Milling—Flour—						
Millers—Head ..	[6]116 0	[6]116 0	[6] 99 6	[6]116 0	[6]116 0	130 0
„ Shift ..	[6]103/ to 113/6	[6]103/ to 113/6	[6]91/ to 99/	[6]103/ to 113/6	[6]103/ to 113/6	105/ & 114/
Packermen ..	[6] 91 0	[6] 91 0	[6] 79 6	[6] 91 0	[6] 91 0	95 0
Purifiermen ..	[6] 94 0	[6] 94 0	[6] 79 6	[6] 94 0	[6] 94 0	90 0
Silksmen	[6] 94 0	[6] 94 0	[6] 79 6	[6] 94 0	[6] 94 0	90 0
Storemen—Head ..	[6] 96 0	[6] 96 0	[6] 84 6	[6] 96 0	[6] 96 0	100 0
Topmen	[6] 94 0	[6] 94 0	[6] 79 6	[6] 94 0	[6] 94 0	95 0
Truckers and Others..	[6]86/ to 89/	[6]86/ to 89/	..	[6]86/ to 89/	[6]86/ to 89/	90 0
Milling—Oatmeal—						
Kilnmen	[6] 92 6	86 6	[6] 78 6	81 6	..	90/ & 95/
Millers—Head ..	[6]103 0	93 6	[6]82/6 & 97/6	88 6	..	115 0
Pastrycooking—						
Carters	[6] 92 6	83 6	[6] 84 0	96 6	95 6	83 6
Pastrycooks ..	[6]106 6	111 6	[6]105 0	107 6	106/ & 113/6	100 0

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bootmaking—						
Bootmakers ..	[6] 98 6	[6] 98 6	[6] 98 6	[6]102 6	[6] 98 6	[6] 98 6
Tailoring—Order—						
Cutters	[6]118 0	[6]118 0	[6]118 0	[6]118 0	[6]125 6	[6]118 0
Pressers	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]115 6	[6]108 0
Tailors	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]115 6	[6]108 0
Trimmers	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]108 0	[6]115 6	[6]108 0

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tailoring—Ready-made—						
Cutters	[c]111 0	[c]111 0	[c]111 0	[c]111 0	[c]103 0	[c]111 0
Folders	[c] 91 6	[c] 91 6	[c] 91 6	[c] 91 6	..	[c] 91 6
Machinists ..	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	..	[c]108 0
Pressers	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]103 0	[c]108 0
Tailors	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]103 0	[c]108 0
Trimmers	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]108 0	[c]103 0	[c]108 0
Textile-Working—Woollen Mills—						
Carders	85 6	86 6	[c] 77 0	84 6	82 0	80 6
Dyehousemen ..	87 0	86 6	[c] 77 0	84 6	82 0	80 6
Labourers—General ..	85 6	86 6	[c] 77 0	84 6	82 0	80 6
Pattern Weavers ..	85 6	89 6	*a*	87 6	85 0	83 6
Scourers ..	86 0	86 6	[c] 77 0	84 6	82 0	80 6
Spinners	86 6	86 6	[c] 88 0	84 6	82 0	80 6
Tuners	89/6 & 101/	88/ & 103/	[c]77/ to 88/	86/ to 101/	83/6 to 98/6	82/ to 97/

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bookbinding—						
Bookbinders ..	[c]112 0	[c]112 0	[c]104 0	[c]112 0	[c]116 0	[c]112 0
Finishers	[c]112 0	[c]112 0	[c]104 0	[c]112 0	[c]116 0	[c]112 0
Marblers	[c]112 0	[c]112 0	[c]104 0	[c]112 0	[c]116 0	[c]112 0
Paper Rulers ..	[c]112 0	[c]112 0	[c]104 0	[c]112 0	[c]116 0	[c]112 0
Engraving (Process)—*b*						
Engravers	[c]112 6	[c]120 0	..	[c]100 6	..	..
Etchers—Half-tone ..	[c]118 6	[c]110/ & 120/	[c]107 0	[c]113 0	..	..
Etchers—Line ..	[c]112 6	[c]117 6	[c]102 0	[c] 99 0	..	..
Operators	[c]118 6	[c]110/ & 120/	[c]107 0	[c]113 0	..	..
Printers	[c]112 6	[c]112 6	[c] 97 0	[c] 89 0	..	..
Routers	[c]107 6	[c]110 0	[c] 94 6	[c] 89 0	..	..
Lithographing—						
Printers	[c]112 0	[c]112 0	[c]108 0	[c]112 0	..	[c]112 0
Rotary Machinists ..	[c]112 0	[c]112 0	[c]108 0	[c]112 0	[c]106 0	[c]112 0
Stone Polishers ..	[c] 96 0	[c] 96 0	[c] 88 0	[c] 96 0	..	[c] 96 0
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—						
Compositors—						
Day Work ..	[c]135 0	[c]127 6	[c]111 10	[c]119 6	[c]146 0	[c]114 0
Night Work ..	[s]145 0	[c]140 0	[c]119 2	[s]128 6	[s]161 0	[s]123 0
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work ..	[c]130 0	[c]105 10	[c] 98 0	[c] 95 6	[c]131 0	[c] 95 6
Night Work ..	[s]140 0	[s]117 7	[c]103 0	[s]104 6	[s]146 0	[s]104 6
Linotype Operators—						
Day Work ..	[c]161/ & 171/	*a*	[c]123 1	*a*	[s]157 0	*a*
Night Work ..	[s]171/ & 181/	*a*	[c]130 5	*a*	[s]*b*172 0	*a*
Machinists (First Hand)—						
Day Work ..	[c]135 0	[c]117 7	[c]120 6	[c]119 6	[c]136 0	[c]114 0
Night Work ..	[s]145 0	[s]135 3	[c]125 6	[s]128 6	[s]151 0	[s]123 0
Publishers ..	[c] & [s] 115/ & 125/	[c] & [s]105/10 & 114/10	[c]87/ to 103/	[c] & [s]98/6 to 107/6	[c] & [s]116/ to 133/	[c] & [s]93/ to 102/
Readers—						
Day Work ..	[c]140 0	[c]127 6	[c]108 0	[c]122 6	[c]146 0	[c]117 0
Night Work ..	[c]150 0	[c]130 0	[c]113 0	[s]131 6	[s]161 0	[s]126 0
Readers' Assistants—						
Day Work ..	[c]110 0	[c] 92 6	[c] 93 0	[c] 95 6	[c]112 0	[c] 92 0
Night Work ..	[s]120 0	[c]95/ & 100/	[c] 98 0	[s]104 6	[s]127 0	[s] 99 0
Stereotypers (First Class)—						
Day Work ..	[s]127 6	[s]111 9	[c]100/6 & 108/	[s]107 6	[s]128 6	[s]102 0
Night Work ..	[s]*b*137 6	[s]122 1	[c]105/6 & 113/	[s]116 6	[s]143 6	[s]111 0

(*a*) Piece-work rates. (*b*) Other than in newspaper offices.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	[a]112 0	[a]112 0	[a]104 0	[a]112 0	[a]116 0	[a]112 0
Electrotypers ..	[a]112 0	[a]112 0	[a]104 0	[a]112 0	..	[a]112 0
General Hands ..	[a] 88 0	[a] 88 0	[a] 88 0	[a] 88 0	..	[a] 88 0
Linotype Operators ..	[a]124 0	[a]124 0	[a]108/ & 115/4	[a]124 0	[a]138 0	[a]124 0
Machinists ..	[a]112 0	[a]112 0	[a]88/ to 104/	[a]112 0	[a]116 0	[a]112 0
Monotype Operators	[a]124 0	[a]124 0	[a]103/ & 109/	[a]124 0	[a]138 0	[a]124 0
Monotype Casting Machinists ..	[a]112 0	[a]112 0	[a] 88 0	[a]112 0	..	[a]112 0
Readers	[a]118 0	[a]118 0	[a]104 0	[a]118 0	[a]116 0	[a]118 0
Stereotypers ..	[a]112 0	[a]112 0	[a]104 0	[a]112 0	[a]116 0	[a]112 0

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Brickmaking—						
Burners	[a]100 6	89 0	[a]85/ to 91/	97 6	[a]93/6 & 107/	93 0
Carters—Two Horses	[a]101 0	88 6	89 0	88 6	100 6	93 0
Drawers	[a]100 6	88/6 to 93/6	[a] 79 6	105 6	*a*	93 0
Labourers	[a] 94 6	83 0	[a] 77 8	94 6	[a] 93 6	90 0
Machinemen ..	[a] 96 6	84 6	[a] 79 6	97/6 & 100/6	[a]93/6 & 96/6	90 0
Panmen	[a]94/6 & 98/6	86/ to 90/	[a] 77 8	97/6 & 100/	[a] 93 6	90 0
Pitmen	[a] 98 6	89/ to 94/	[a] 79 6	99 6	[a] 93 6	90 0
Setters	[a]100 6	88/6 to 93/6	[a]77/8 & 79/6	105 6	[a]101 6	96 0
Wheelers	[a] 94 6	83 0	[a]77/8 & 79/6	94 6	[a]93/6 & 96/6	90 0
Brushmaking—						
Bass Broom Drawers	[a]105 0	95 0	} [a]94 6 {	98 6	..	..
Finishers	[a]105 0	95 0		98 6	..	..
Machinists—Boring ..	[a]105 0	95 0		98 6	..	..
Paint Brush Makers..	[a]109 6	100 0		105 0	..	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers	87 6	89 0	[a] 81 0	81 0	..	..
General Hands ..	85 6	83 0	[a] 77 0	78 0	86 0	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	90 0	89 0	[a] 77 0	81 0	96 0	..
Moulders	87 6	89 0	[a] 81 0	81 0	95 0	80 0
Stillmen	90 6	89 0	[a] 81 0	81 0	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Guillotine and other Cutters	[a]100/ to 103/	[a]100/ to 103/	[a] 92 0	[a]100/ to 103/	[a]99/ & 100/6	[a]101/ to 103/
Other Adults ..	[a] 88 0	[a] 88 0	[a] 79 6	[a] 88 0	[a] 86 0	[a] 88 0
Coachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	112 6	107 0	[a]101 0	101 6	110 0	106 6
Labourers	88 6	83 0	[a] 80 0	77 6	86 0	82 6
Painters	[a]112 6	[a]107 0	[a]101 0	[a]101 6	[a]110 0	106 6
Smiths	112 6	107 0	[a]101 0	101 6	110 0	106 0
Trimmers	112 6	107 0	[a]101 0	101 6	110 0	106 6
Wheelmaking Machinists ..	112 6	107 0	[a]101 0	101 6	110 0	106 6
Wheelwrights ..	112 6	107 0	[a]101 0	101 6	110 0	106 6
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	91 6	86 0	[a] 89 6	81 0	89 0	..
Green Hands ..	91 6	86 0	[a] 86 6	81 0	89 0	..
Limepit Men ..	91 6	86 0	[a]89/6 & 92/6	81 0	89 0	..
Machinists ..	94 6	89 0	[a]86/6 to 95/6	81 0	..	..
Soakhole Men ..	94 6	89 0	[a] 92 6	81 0	89 0	..
Wool Sorters ..	106 6	101 0	[a] 92 6	81 0	89 0	..

(*a*) Piece-work rates.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gas Making and Supply—						
Coke Trimmers ..	[6]105 0	[6] 94 3	[6] 77 0	..	..	..
Gas Fitters ..	[6]121 0	[6]121 0	[6]112 6	[6]119 0	[6]122 0	[6] 98 11
Labourers	[6] 93 0	[6] 86 5	[6] 77 0	[6] 89 0	[6] 86 0	[6] 84 2
Mainlayers	[6]109 0	118 0	[6] 88 0	[6]115/ to 116/	[6] 98 0	[6] 99 5
Metermakers ..	[6]113 6	109 7	..	[6]119/ to 142/8	[6]110 0	99 5
Meter Testers ..	[6]106 6	103 7	..	[6]107 0	..	..
Service Layers ..	[6]109 0	118 0	[6] 88 0	[6]119 0	[6]101 0	[6] 99 5
Stokers	[6]113 0	[6]103/10 to 107/9	[6]102/ & 104/	[6]108/9 to 110/3	[6]102 9	[6]100 10
Glassfounding—						
Furnacemen ..	[6] 96 6	[6] 92 6	[6] 94 0	[6] 87 0	[6] 97 0	..
Labourers	87 6	83 6	85 0	78 0	88 0	..
Lehrmen	[13]*a*91 0	[13]*a*87 0	[12]*a*88 6	81 6	[13]*a*88 0	..
Sorters	90 0	86 0	87 6	81 6	88 0	..
Glassworking and Glazing						
Bevellers	110 0	107 6	[6]100 0	105 6	[6]107 0	105 6
Cutters and Glaziers..	108 6	107 6	[6] 94 0	105 6	..	..
Lead Light Glaziers ..	108 6	107 6	..	105 6	..	..
Silverers	110 0	107 6	[6]100 0	105 6	[6]107 0	..
Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—						
Chainmakers ..	[6]105/ to 107/	101 6	[6] 89 6	[11]100 0	[6]110 0	[12]80/ to 100/
Engravers	[6]107 6	[11]107 6	[6]89/6 & 92/	[11]102 6	[6]110 0	[12]80/ to 100/
Mounters	[6]105 0	101 6	[6]89/6 & 92/	[11]110 0	[6]110 0	[12]80/ to 100/
Setters	[6]107 6	104 0	[6] 92 0	[11]110 0	[6]110 0	[12]80/ to100/
Watch and Clock-makers and Repairers	[6]108 6	[6]90/ & 100/	[6] 94 6	[11]106/ & 110/	[6]111 0	..
Masonry — Marble and Stone—						
Carvers	[6]*b*156 8	[6]151 2	[6]121 8	[6]150 4	[6]113/8 & 117/4	..
Machinists—						
Carborundum ..	[6]*b*130 0	107 0	[6]121 8	[6]113/8 & 124/8	[6]113/8 & 117/4	..
Other	[6]117/4 & 126/6	119 0	[6]121 8	[6]113/8 & 124/8	[6]113/8 & 117/4	..
Masons	[6]*b*130 0	[6]124 0	[6]121 8	[6]124 8	[6]113/8 & 117/4	[6]110 0
Paper Bag Making—						
Guillotine Cutters ..	[6]100 0	[6]100 0	[6] 95 6	[6]100 0	[6]106 0	[6]100 0
Machinists ..	[6]103 0	[6]103 0	[6] 95 6	[6]103 0	[6]106 0	[6]103 0
Paper Making—						
Beatermen	[6]102 6	104 0	..	..	..	..
Breakermen ..	[6] 85 6	87 0	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Men ..	[6] 85 6	86 0	..	..	..	..
Machinists ..	[6]102 6	107 0	..	..	..	..
Ragboilermen ..	[6] 87 6	86 0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	[6] 84 6	83 0	..	..	..	..
Potteries—General—						
Burners—Head ..	[6] 97 6	90 0	[6] 85 0	101/ to 102/	..	84 0
Hollow-ware Pressers	[6]102 6	88 0	[6] 77 8	90/ to 105/	..	84 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	[6]108 6	89 0	[6] 77 8	..	..	84 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	[6]108 6	95 0	[6] 96 0	95/ to 110/	..	87 0
Potteries—Pipemaking—						
Burners—Head ..	[6] 98 0	90 0	[6] 91 0	102 0	98 0	84 0
Drawers	[6] 92 6	87 0	[6] 77 8	102 0	86 0	..
Moulders	[6] 99 6	83 0	[6] 77 8	..	98 0	78/ & 79/6
Mould Makers ..	[6] 94 6	95 0	[6] 79 6	102 0	96 0	..
Setters	[6] 96 6	88 0	[6] 77 8	..	90/ & 98/	79 6
Quarrying—						
Borers—						
Hand or Machine ..	[6]102 0	[6] 95 0	[6] 86 2	92 6	[6] 94 9	88 0
Dressers	[6]111 2	100 0	[6] 80 2	86 6	..	84 0
Facemen	[6]104 0	95 0	[6] 86 2	86 6	..	78 0
Hammermen ..	[6]100/ & 102/6	[6]100 0	[6] 86 2	86 6	[6] 94 9	84 0
Machine Feeders ..	[6]106 0	[6] 91 6	[6]81/7 & 85/8	86 6	[6]100 6	81 0
Quarrymen ..	[6]111 2	..	[6] 89 10	86 6	[6] 94 9	88/ & 102/

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Rubber Working—						
Calendar Hands ..	[10]a107/ to 111/	[10]a103/ to 107/	..	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	[10]a92 0	[10]a89 6	..	..	..	..
Dough Mixers ..	[10]a93 6	[10]a89 6	..	..	..	..
Hosemakers ..	[10]a93 6	[10]a89 6	..	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands	[10]a97 0	[10]a93 0	..	..	..	..
Mill Hands ..	[10]a99 6	[10]a95 6	..	..	..	..
Spreaders	[10]a93 6	[10]a89 6	..	..	..	..
Surgical, Packing, and other Makers ..	[10]a94 6	[10]a90 6	..	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	[10]a109 0	[10]a105 6	..	..	..	..
Saddlery and Harness-making—						
Harnessmakers ..	109 0	109 0	109 0	102 6	110 0	109 0
Saddlers	109 0	109 0	109 0	102 6	110 0	109 0
Sail Making—						
Sailmakers	109 0	109 0	109 0	97 6	91 0	109 0
Ship Building—						
Carpenters and Joiners	[6]115 6	[6]115 6	[6]115 6	[6]115 6	[6]115 6	[6]115 6
Dockers	118 0	118 0	[6]107 4	118 0	[6]108 4	..
Painters	118 0	118 0	[6]107 4	118 0	[6]108 4	..
Shipwrights ..	130 0	[6]118 4	[6]118 4	130 0	130 0	[6]118 4
Soap Making—						
General Hands ..	85 6	83 0	[6] 77 0	78 0	86 0	80 0
Mixers	85 6	89 0	[6] 77 0	84 0	93 0	..
Soap Makers ..	97 6	..	[6] 77 0	..	91 0	100 0
Tanning and Currying—						
Beamsmen	94 6	94 6	94 6	94 6	94 6	94 6
Curriers	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0
Japanners or Enamellers	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 0
Limemen and Yardmen	86 0	86 0	86 0	86 0	86 0	86 0
Machinists—						
Fleshing	94 6	94 6	94 6	94 6	94 6	94 6
Scouring ..	87 0	87 0	87 0	87 0	87 0	87 0
Splitting	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0
Unhairing ..	89 0	89 0	89 0	89 0	89 0	89 0
Rollers and Strikers ..	91 0	91 0	91 0	91 0	91 0	91 0
Tablemen	89 0	89 0	89 0	89 0	89 0	89 0
Tent and Tarpaulin Making—						
Cutters	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	97 6	..	..
Machinists	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	97 6	..	..
Sewers—Hand ..	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	97 6	..	..
Tent Makers ..	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	103/ to 109/	97 6	91 0	..

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Building—						
Bricklayers—						
Surface	[6]126 6	[6]115 6	[6]112 6	[6]121 0	[6]121 0	[6]106 4
Sewer and Tunnel	[6]132 3	[6]123 9	[6]112 6	[6]121 0	[6]121 0	[6]112/ & 118/4
Carpenters	[6]125 0	[6]115 6	[6]112 6	[6]110 11	[6]122 0	[6]114 7
Labouring (Builders)..	[6] 99 11	[6] 94 5	[6] 94 2	[6] 89 10	[6]94/6 to 103/8	[6] 93 6
Lathers	[6]102 0	[6]104 6	[6]112 6	(*a*)	(*a*)	[6] 95 4
Metal Cellers ..	[6]117 0	[6]112 9	[6]112 6	..	[6]122 0	[6]106 4
Masons	[b]130 0	[6]124 0	[6]121 8	[6]124 8	[6]113/8 & 117/4	[6]106 4
Painters, Paperhangers	[6]115 10	[6]102 8	[6]112 6	[6]113 8	[6]120 2	[6]106 4
Signwriters ..	[6]123 2	[6]102 8	[6]112 6	[6]113 8	[6]120 2	[6]106 4

(*a*) Mainly piece-work.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Building—*continued.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Plasterers—						
Surface	[c]132 0	[c]123 9	[c]112 6	[c]121 0	[c]121 6	[c]108 4
Sewer or Tunnel ..	[c]137 6	[c]137 6	..	[c]121 0	[c]127/6 & 133/6	[c]112/4 & 115/4
Plumbers, Gasfitters	[c]126 10	[c]121 0	[c]112 6	[c]110 0	[c]122 0	[c]98/11 to 121/
Slaters	[c]126 10	[c]126 6	[c]112 6	(*a*)	..	[c]110 0
Tilers	[c]126 10	[c]121 0	[c]112 6	[c]121 0	[c]119 2	[c]110 0
Tuckpointers ..	[c]100 0	[c]117 4	[c]112 6	[c]121 0	(*a*)	[c]123 9
Water Supply and Sewerage—						
Concrete Workers ..	100/6 & 105/6	[c]106 8	[c]88/ to 97/2	96 0	[c] 92 0	89 0
Labourers	95 0	[c] 84 2	[c] 79 0	93 0	[c] 86 0	83 0
Miners—Sewer ..	[a] & [c]118/6 & 137/	[c]94/2 to 99/8	[c]104 6	..	[c] 95 0	95 0
Pipe-jointers and Setters	103/6 & 108/	[c] 96 2	[c]82/6 & 84/4	96/ & 99/	[c]95/ & 104/	89 0

GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Coal Mining—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Blacksmiths ..	[c]113/6 to 120/6	120 0	[ss][b]127/6 to 130/6	..	[b] & [c]126 0	107/ & 121/6
Bracemen	[ss][b]108/6 to 110/6	[ss][b]116 6	[ss][b]111/ to 126/6	..	..	..
Carpenters	[c]116/6 to 124/6	116 6	[ss][b]121/6 to 122/6	..	..	107 0
Deputies	[ss][b]132/6 to 143/	133 0	[ss][b]130/6 to 134/	..	..	125/ & 126/
Engine Drivers— ..						
Winding and Loco.	[c]117 to 135/	112/ & 120/6	[ss][b]120/6 to 156/	..	[c]121/6 to 129/	113/ to 124/6
Other	[c]108/6 to 119/	112 0	[ss][b]114/6 to 144/	..	..	..
Labourers—						
Surface	[c]105 0	105 0	[ss][b]108/ to 114/6	..	..	105/ & 106/6
Underground ..	[ss][b]105/ to 108/6	[ss][b]105 0	[ss][b]108/ to 115/	..	[s] 99 0	[ss][b]105/ & 106/6
Miners—						
Machine ..	(*a*)	(*a*)	[ss][b]127/ to 130/6	..	[c]119/6 to 127/6	..
Manual—Dry Work	(*a*)	(*a*)	(*a*)	..	[c]117 6	(*a*)
Platmen or Banksmen	[ss][b]108/6 to 112/	[ss][b]116 6	[ss][b]108/ to 115/	Not mined.	[c]109 6	[ss][b]103 6
Shaftsinkers—						
Dry Work ..	[ss][b]107/3 to 126/	[ss][b]129 0	[ss][b]130/6 to 136/		[c]119 6	(*a*)
Wet Work ..	[ss][b]110/8 to 126/6	[ss][b]135 0	[ss][b]139/9 to 145/3		..	(*a*)
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	[ss][b]105/ to 129/6	[ss][b]116 6	[ss][b]122/6 to 130/6		..	[ss][b]119/6 to 123/
Wet Work ..	[ss][b]105/ to 129/6	[ss][b]122 6	[ss][b]131/9 to 139/9		..	..
Shotfirers	[ss][b]126/6 to 132/6	..	[ss][b]122/6 to 130/6		[c]119 6	..
Timbermen.. ..	[ss][b]105/ to 122/	[ss][b]129 0	[ss][b]122/6 to 130/6	..	[c]119 6	..
Weighmen	[c]112/ to 115/6	[ss][b]123 0	..	..	..	[ss][b]114 0
Wheelers	[ss][b]106/ to 112/	[ss][b]108 6	[ss][b]111/6 to 119/	..	[c]109/6 & 115/6	[ss][b]103 6
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—						
Battery Feeders ..	[c]87/ to 101/	76/9 to 87/6	[c]87/4 to 92/10	(*b*)	[c]86/ to 99/	78 0
Bracemen	[a] & 90/ to 101/	[c]81/9 to 92/6	[c]92/10 to 98/4	..	[c]96/ to 108/	[c] 81 0

(*a*) Piece-work rates. (*b*) South Australia—Particulars relating to rates of wage and hours of labour in the mining industry are not shown, owing to the difficulty of obtaining reliable data on account of the depression in the industry.

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP VIII.—MINING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—*contd.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Engine Drivers—						
Stationary ..	[6] & 95/ to 103/	88/6 to 108/11	[6]91/ to 112/	..	100/ to 106/	79/6 to 94/6
Winding and Loco.	[6] & 105/ to 115/	97/6 to 115/11	[6]101/ to 123/	.. ..	103/ to 118/	88/6 to 101/6
Firemen	[6] & 86/ to 99/	85/6 to 96/11	[6]86/ to 103/10	..	93/ to 99/	76/6 to 82/6
Labourers	[3]*a* & [6]87/ to 95/	[6]76/ to 87/6	[6]87/4 to 92/10	.. ..	[6]86/ to 102/	[6] 78 0
Miners—						
Machine	[3]*a* & [6]96/ to 104/	[6]82/9 to 105/6	[6]101/1 to 106/7	..	[6]100/ to 119/	[6]87/ to 90/
Manual—						
Dry Work ..	[3]*a* & [6]96/ to 104/	[6]85/9 to 103/6	[6]92/10 to 98/4	..	[6]95/ to 114/	[6]87/ to 88/6
Wet Work ..	[3]*a* & [6]105/ to 110/	[6]91/9 to 109/6	[6]101/1 to 107/6	..	[6]104/ to 123/	[6]93/ to 94/6
Platmen	[3]*a* & [6]90/ to 101/	[6]81/9 to 92/6	[6]92/10 to 98/4	..	[6]96/ to 108/	[6] 81 0
Shaft Sinkers—						
Dry Work ..	[3]*a* & [6]99/ to 104/	[6]91/9 to 105/6	[6]92/10 to 107/6	..	[6]102/ to 119/	[6] 93 0
Wet Work ..	[3]*a* & [6]108/ to 110/	[6]97/9 to 111/6	[6]101/1 to 107/6	..	[6]111/ to 128/	[6]116 8
Timbermen ..	[3]*a* & [6]94/6 to 110/	[6]87/3 to 104/	[6]101/1 to 106/7	..	[6]102/ to 119/	[6]90/ to 96/

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Railways—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class	[38]*a*133 0	130 0	115/ to 125/	129 6	[6]132 0	126 6
2nd Class ..	[38]*a*127 0	124 0	109/6 to 119/6	126 6	[6]124 0	120 6
3rd Class ..	[38]*a*121 0	118 0	103/ to 113/	120 6	[6]116 0	114 6
4th Class	[38]*a*114 0	112 0	97/ to 107/	114 6	[6]110 0	108 6
5th Class ..	[38]*a*109 0	106 0	97/ to 107/	..	[6]110 0	102 6
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	[38]*a*103 0	100 0	90/6 to 100/6	107 0	[6]107 0	96 6
2nd Class ..	[38]*a* 97 0	94 0	90/6 to 100/6	102 6	[6]101 0	90 6
3rd Class ..	[38]*a* 91 0	88 0	85/ to 95/	99 6	[6] 96 0	84 6
Guards—						
1st Class ..	[39]*a*100/ to 112/	110/6 to 113/6	110/6 to 120/6	105/6 to 108/6	[6]110 0	103/ to 106/
2nd Class ..	[39]*a*94/ to 100/	106/ to 109/	105/ to 115/	101/ to 104/	[6]107 0	97/ to 100/
3rd Class ..	[39]*a*90/ to 94/	88/ to 100/	95/ to 105/	83/ to 92/	[6]101/ to 104/	91/ to 94/
Porters	[39]*a*85/ to 94/	82/ to 97/	81/ to 95/	80/ to 86/	[6] 86 0	79/ to 88/
Shunters—						
1st Class	[39]*a*112/ to 118/	[38]*a*109/6 to 115/	110/6 to 120/6	95 0	[6] 95 0	91 0
2nd Class ..	[39]*a*107/6 to 110/6	[38]*a*104/6 to 107/6	103/ to 113/	92 0	[6] 92 0	88 0
3rd Class ..	[39]*a*100/ to 103/	[38]*a*100 0	99/6 to 109/6	..	..	..
Ordinary ..	[39]*a*91/ to 97/	[38]*a*88/ to 94/	91/ to 101/	..	[6] 92 0	..
Signalmen—						
Special	..	[38]*a*118 0	104/ to 116/	99/6 to 108/6	[6]113 0	..
1st Class	[39]*a*121 0	[38]*a*109 0	102/ to 112/	96 6	[6]104 0	88/ to 91/
2nd Class ..	[39]*a*115 0	103 0	98/ to 108/	93 6	[6] 98 0	82/ to 85/
3rd Class ..	[39]*a*110 0	98 6	91/ to 101/	87 6	[6] 92 0	..
4th Class ..	[39]*a*97/ to 106/	94 0	87/ to 97/	84 6	[6] 89 0	..

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Tramways (Electric and Cable)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Car Washers or Cleaners	[39]*a*92/ & 95/	89 0	[6] 84 10	81 0	[6] 86 0	85 0
Conductors—						
1st Year	[39]*a*97 6	89 0	80 0	83/ to 85/	[6] 88 0	83 6
2nd Year.. ..	[39]*a*100 6	92 0	80/ to 85/	85 0	[6] 98 0	86 6
3rd Year ..	[39]*a*103 6	95 0	85/ to 95/	89/ to 91/	[6] 98 0	89 6
Horse Drivers ..	[39]*a*99 0	95 0	84 0	88 0	[6] 92 0	83 6
Labourers	[39]*a*92 0	83/ to 89/	[6] 77 0	79 0	[6] 86 0	82/ to 85/
Maintenance Men ..	[39]*a*95 0	92 0	[6] 84 10	82 0	[6] 92 0	88 0
Motormen or Grip-men—						
1st Year	[39]*a*100 6	89 0	80 0	85 0	[6] 98 0	85 0
2nd Year ..	[39]*a*103 6	92 0	80/ to 85/	88 0	[6] 98 0	88 0
3rd Year ..	[39]*a*106 6	95 0	85/ to 95/	91/ to 92/6	[6] 98 0	91 0
Overhead Wiremen—						
Leading	[39]*a*119/6 to 128/6	..	[6]116 1	94 6	[6]114 0	106 0
Other	[39]*a*113/6 & 122/6	..	[6]101 1	92 0	[6]104 0	98 0
Pitmen	[39]*a*107 0	101/ to 107/	[6]85/6 & 92/10	85/ to 88/	[6] 98 0	91/ to 97/
Signalmen	[39]*a*106/6 to 116/6	98/ to 104/	88/ to 92/	91/ to 97/6	..	..
Track Cleaners ..	[39]*a*90 0	88 6	80 0	82 0	[6] 92 0	85 0

GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Carrying—Merchandise—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	93 6	83 6	84 0	83 6	95 6	83 6
Two Horses ..	98 6	88 6	89 0	88 6	100 6	88 6
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	98 6	83 6	84 0	83 6	[6] 94 0	83 6
Two Horses ..	105 0	88 6	89 0	88 6	[6] 99 0	88 6
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	93 6	91 6	91 0	91 6	103 6	91 6
Two Horses ..	98 6	96 6	96 0	96 6	108 6	96 6
Sanitary Carters ..	104/ & 109/	[6]87/6 to 97/6	85 0	87/6 to 97/6	[6] 95 0	87/6 to 97/6
Stable Hands ..	93/ & 98/	82 6	77 0	82 6	94 6	82 6
Motor Lorries and Wagons—						
Under 3 tons ..	95/6 to 105/6	88/6 to 92/6	86/ to 94/	88/6 to 92/6	100/6 & 104/6	88/6 to 92/6
3 tons or over ..	105/6 to 110/	96 6	99/ to 104/	96 6	108 6	96 6
Lift Attendants—						
Goods	[6] 86 6	90 0	[6] 82 0	75/ to 80/	86 0	..
Passenger ..	[6] 86 6	90 0	[6]77/ & 79/	75/ to 80/	86 0	84 0

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Waterside Working—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Wharf Labourers per hour*a*	2 9½	2 9½	2 9¾	2 9½	2 9½	2 9½
Passenger Vessels—Interstate*b*—						
Bakers per month			306/ to 366/			
Barmen ,,			285/*d.*			
Butchers ,,			306/ to 346/*c*			
Cooks—						
Chief ,,			416/ to 446/*c*			
Second ,,			336/*c*			
Third ,,			276/*c*			
Ships' ,,			326/*c*			
Pantrymen ,,			307/6*d*			
Scullerymen ,,			256/*c*			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon ,,			297/6*d*			
Second .. ,,			327/6*d*			
Second Saloon ,,			327/6*d*			
Fore Cabin ,,			307/6*d*			
Bedroom and Other ,,			277/6 to 287/6*d*			
All Vessels—Interstate*bh*—						
A.B. Seamen per month			315/			
Boatswains ,,			335/			
Donkeymen ,,			375/			
Firemen .. ,,			355/			
Greasers .. ,,			355/			
Lamp Trimmers ,,			335/			
Fuel Trimmers ,,			315/			
	Vessels.		Vessels.			
Marine Engineers*b e g*—	*Under* 100 *N.H.P.*		100 *N.H.P. and over.*			
Chief per month	617/6 to 672/6		702/6 to 1082/6			
Second .. ,,	512/6		512/6 to 702/6			
Third .. ,,	457/6		457/6 to 582/6			
Fourth .. ,,			398/ to 522/6			
5th, 6th, 7th and 8th .. ,,			388/			
	Seagoing Passenger Vessels.		Seagoing Cargo Vessels.			
Merchant Service*b f g*—	125 *tons or under.*	*Over* 10,000 *tons.*	60 *tons or under.*	*Over* 10,000 *tons.*		
Masters per month	628/	1,742/6	540/	1,302/6		
Officers—						
Chief .. ,,	488/	702/6	428/	622/6		
Second .. ,,	428/	622/6	388/	562/6		
Third .. ,,	..	532/6	..	492/6		
Fourth and Fifth .. ,,	..	388/	..	388/		

a Rate of wage quoted is for other than special cargo. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. *c* Not more than 8 hours per day. *d* Not more than 10 hours per day when at sea, 9 per day when in intermediate ports, nor more than 8 per day when in terminal ports. *e* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels. *f* Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given. *g Marine Engineers*—Not more than 8 hours per day. *Masters and Officers*—Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours. *h* Not more than 8 hours per day.

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Farming*c*—						
General Hands *a b*	25/ to 35/	20/ to 35/	20/ to 40/	25/ to 35/	25/ to 40/	20/ to 36/
Harvesters *a b* ..	48/ to 75/	30/ to 60/	35/ to 70/	40/ to 60/	30/ to 60/	40/ to 60/
Milkers *a b*	20/ to 35/	20/ to 35/	15/ to 30/	20/ to 30/	25/ to 40/	20/ to 35/
Ploughmen *a b* ..	25/ to 40/	25/ to 40/	20/ to 35/	25/ to 35/	30/ to 40/	25/ to 40/
Chaffcutters—						
Portable	..	[10] 95 6	[6] 78 0	..	..	[32]92/6 & 95/
Stationary ..	..	[10] 89 6	[6] 78 0	[16]75/ to 86/	..	[32]92/6 & 95/

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Gardening—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Gardeners	95 0	91 0	[c] 86 8	88/6 & 91/6	92 0	86 0
Labourers	82 6	87 0	[c] 77 0	85/6 & 88/6	86 0	83 0
Nurserymen ..	95 0	91 0	[c] 83 6	91/6 & 97/6	98 0	86 0
Labourers	82 6	86 0	[c] 77 0	85/ to 91/6	86 0	83 0
Pastoral Workers*d*—						
Cooks *b*	93 0	93 0	[c] 91 9	93 0	95 6	93 0
Shearers .. per 100	32 6	32 6	[c] 36 0	32 6	31 6	32 6
Shed Hands *b* ..	82 6	82 6	[c] 81 0	82 6	88 0	82 6
Wool Pressers *b* ..	105 6	105 6	[c] 99 0	105 6	108 0	105 6
Rural Workers—						
Fruit Harvesters ..	81/ to 82/	77/ to 81/	[c] 78 0	71/ to 80/	..	..

a Ruling or predominant rates, *see* note at commencement of table. *b* Rates of wage quoted are in addition to board and lodging provided. *c* Hours in the farming industry vary considerably, and no reliable particulars can be published. *d* Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 44 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Clubs, Hotels, and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Cooks (Hotels and Restuarants)—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Chefs	[a] 105/ to 197/6	104/ to 133/6	[a] 102/ & 107/	110/6 to 135/6	108/ & 116/	72/5 to 127/11
Cooks—Second ..	[a] 95/ to 147/6	98/ to 116/	[a] 92 0	95/6 to 110/	94/ & 100/	57/7 to 102/1
Cooks—Third ..	[a] 92/6 to 117/6	98 0	[a] 92 0	95/6 to 99/	93 0	57/7 to 82/4
Kitchenmen ..	[a] 84 6	92 0	[a] 79 6	85 6	88 0	64 2
Hairdressing—						
Hairdressers ..	103 6	100 0	[a] 92 0	100 0	106 0	100/ & 105/
Hotels—						
Barmen	[a] 94 6	94 6	[a] 83 0	92 0	106 0	88 0
Billiard Markers ..	82 6	92 0	[a] 77 0	85 6	88 0	64 2
Handymen ..	82 6	92 0	[a] 77 0	85 6	88 0	52/7 & 58/8
Lift Attendants ..	82 6	[b] 90 0	[a] 77 0	85 6	..	55/11 & 64/2
Porters—Day Work	82 6	92 0	[a] 77 0	88 0	88 0	55 11
Porters—Night Work	87 6	92 0	[a] 77 0	93 0	93 0	64 2
Waiters—Head ..	91 6	94 6	[a] 77 0	92 6	..	82/4 & 95/6
Waiters—Other ..	84 6	92 0	[a] 77 0	88 0	92 0	63/1 & 82/4
Restaurants—						
Pantrymen ..	82/ to 85/	81 6	79 6	85 6	88 0	64 2
Waiters	82/6 to 87/6	81 6	79 6	88/ & 89/	92 3	63/1 to 82/4

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Factory Engine Driving—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—						
1st Class	100/ to 103/	99/ to 102/	[a] 104 0	90/ to 93/	92/ to 95/	94/6 to 97/6
2nd Class ..	97/ to 100/	96/ to 99/	[a] 96 0	87/ to 90/	89/ to 92/	91/6 to 94/6
3rd Class ..	97/ to 100/	96/ to 99/	[a] 88 0	87/ to 90/	89/ to 92/	91/6 to 94/6
Firemen—						
1st Class ..	94 0	96 0	[a] 86 0	87 0	86 0	88 6
2nd Class ..	91/ to 92/6	88/6 to 93/	..	79/6 to 86/	83/ to 84/6	85/6 to 87/
Greasers	91 0	88 6	[a] 86 0	81 0	83 0	85 6
Trimmers	89 6	88 6	[a] 82 0	79 6	81 6	84 0

SECTION IV.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Municipal—						
Labourers	[6] 98 6	86 0	[6] 77 0	75 0	[6] 86 0	83 0
Street Sweepers ..	[6] 98 6	91 0	[6] 77 0	75 0	[6] 86 0	83 0
Shop and Other Assistants—						
Boot Salesmen ..	100 0	[12]106 0	[6] 92 0	97 0	98 6	[10]85/ to 100/
Chemists' Assistants	97/6 & 105/	110 0	[6] 103 6	[22]80 0	..	110 0
Clerks	90 0	[5] & [10]92/6	[6] 92 0	[5] & [6]94 0	96 0*a*	[10]110 0
Drapery Salesmen ..	100 0	106 0	[6] 92 0	97 0	98 6	[10]85/ to 100/
Furniture Salesmen ..	100 0	[12]108 6	[6] 92 0	97 0	98 6	107 0
Grocery Salesmen ..	95 0	99 0	[6] 92 0	95 0	98 6	88 0
Hardware Salesmen	100 0	92 6	[6] 92 0	97 0	98 6	90 0
Railway Bookstall Assistants ..	94 6	82/6 & 95/	[6] 92 0	97 0	98 6	90 0
Tobacconists' Assts.	91 0	95 0	[6] 92 0	95 6	98 6	88 0
Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &c.						
Night Watchmen ..	[38]*a*86/6 & 90/	[19]92/6 & 107/11	[6] 80 0	[18] 92 0	..	[16] 80 6
Office Cleaners ..	[6]89/ to 99/	[10] 86 0	[6]77/ & 82/	85 6	[6] 89 0	[17] 75 0
Packers—General ..	[13]92/ to 96/	89 0	[6] 82 0	88 6	98 6	80 6
Storemen—General ..	[13]90/6 to 93/6	89 0	[6] 82 0	88 6	98 6	80 6
Wholesale Grocery—						
Packers	92 0	91 0	[6] 82 0	88 6	98 6	80 0
Storemen	90 6	91/ to 98/	[6] 82 0	88 6	98 6	80 0
Wholesale Hardware—						
Packers	[13]93/6 to 95/6	93 9	[6] 82 0	85 6	98 6	80 0
Storemen	[13]90/6 to 92/6	93 9	[6] 82 0	85 6	98 6	80 0

(*a*) 38 hours except in special circumstances.

Section V.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1930.

(*See Explanatory Note at top of page* 133.)

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Biscuit Making—						
Adult Females ..	* 48 6	42 0	* 39 6	39 6	* 49 1	45 0
Confectionery—						
Adult Females ..	44 6	51 9	* 39 6	40 0	*47/ to 62/	51 9
Jam Making and Preserving—						
Fillers	51 6	51 6	* 45 0	51 6	* 46 5	51 6
Other Adults ..	45 6	45 6	* 41 6	45 6	* 46 5	45 6
Tea Packing—						
Head Women ..	* 45 3	59 0	*41/ to 50/6	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	* 45 3	51 0	* 39 6	44 6	* 46 5	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)—						
Ringers	* 44 6	* 54 0	..	(*a*)	49 5	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	* 48 6	*50/ & 55/	..	(*a*)	49 5	..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bootmaking—						
Machinists — Wax Thread	* 58 9	* 58 9	* 49 9	* 61 3	..	* 58 9
Other Adults ..	* 50 3	* 50 3	* 49 9	* 52 3	* 50 3	* 50 3
Dressmaking—						
Adult Females ..	*50/ to 70/6	*50/ to 70/6	*50/ to 70/6	*50/ to 70/6	*52/1 & 54/1	*50/ to 70/6
Dyers and Cleaners—						
Adult Females ..	*50/ to 56/	*50/ to 56/	*50/ to 56/	*50/ to 56/	* 62 11	*50/ to 56/
Hat Making (Straw)—						
Finishers and Machinists	* 53 0	* 53 0	* 53 0	* 53 0	..	* 53 0
Millinery—						
Adult Females ..	*50/ to 53/	*50/ to 53/	*50/ to 53/	*50/ to 53/	* 50 1	*50/ to 53/
Shirt Making—						
Adult Females ..	*50/ to 65/6	*50/ to 65/6	*50/ to 65/6	*50/ to 65/6	*50/1 & 58/1	*50/ to 65/6
Tailoring (Order)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	* 60 6	* 60 6	* 60 6	* 60 6	* 65 3	* 60 6
Trousers, Vest Hands	* 55 0	* 55 0	* 55 0	* 55 0	* 65 3	* 55 0
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	* 60 6	* 60 6	* 60 6	* 60 6	* 65 3	* 60 6
Trousers, Vest Hands	* 55 0	* 55 0	* 55 0	* 55 0	*55/10 & 57/3	* 55 0
Tailoring (Ready-made)—						
Machinists—						
Coat Hands ..	* 58 0	* 58 0	* 58 0	* 58 0	* 53 1	* 58 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	* 53 0	* 53 0	* 53 0	*53 0	* 50 1	* 53 0
Tailoresses—						
Coat Hands ..	* 58 0	* 58 0	* 58 0	* 58 0	* 53 1	* 58 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	* 52 0	* 52 0	* 52 0	* 52 0	* 50 1	* 52 0
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)—						
Comb Minders ..	49 6	46/6 to 48/	* 41 0	45/6 & 47/	44/ to 45/6	45/3 & 46/9
Drawers and Menders	53/6 to 58/6	45/ to 54/	* 41 0	44/ to 53/	42/6 to 51/6	43/9 to 52/9
Warpers	53/6 & 58/6	47 6	* 41 0	46 6	42 6	46 3
Weavers—Loom ..	58 6	49 0	* 41 0	48 0	45 0	47 9
Other Adults ..	49 6	45 0	* 41 0	44 0	46 6	43 9
Underclothing—						
Adult Females ..	*50/ to 63/6	*50/ to 63/6	*50/ to 63/6	*50/ to 63/6	*52/1 & 54/1	*50/ to 63/6

(*a*) Piece-work rates.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Bedding and Furniture—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Bedding Machinists ..	[6] 49 6	[6] 50 3	[6] 42 4	[6] 49 3	54 8	[6] 50 6
Picture Frame Workers	[6] 54 6	[6] 54 3	..	..	54 8	..
Bookbinding—						
Folders and Sewers ..	[6] 55 6	[6] 55 6	[6] 44 3	[6] 55 6	[6] 54 7	[6] 55 6
Brush Making—						
Adult Females ..	[6] 53 0	44 0	[6] 41 6	42 6	..	..
Candle and Soap Making—						
Adult Females ..	46 0	43 9	[6] 40 3	41 9	..	35 0
Cardboard Box Making—						
Box Makers ..	[6]52/6 to 57/6	[6]52/6 to 57/6	[6] 42 6	[6]52/6 to 57/6	[6] 48 11	[6]52/6 to 57/6
Other Adults ..	[6]47/6 to 51/6	[6]47/6 to 51/6	[6] 42 6	[6]47/6 to 51/6	[6] 48 11	[6]47/6 to 51/6
Jewellery—						
Chainmakers ..	[6]54/6 & 59/6	60 0	[6] 61 6	..	..	..
Gilders	[6] 54 6	67 6	[6] 51 6	[11] 55 0	59 9	..
Polishers	[6] 54 6	70 0	[6] 51 6	[11] 55 0	..	..
Scratch Brushers ..	[6] 54 6	47 6	[6] 51 6	[11] 55 0	..	..
Leather Goods—						
Adult Females ..	[6] 54 0	[6] 54 0	[6] 54 0	50 0	[6] 53 5	[6] 54 0
Paper Making—						
Adult Females ..	[6] 45 0	45 6	..	..	..	..
Paper Bag Making—						
Adult Females ..	[6]47/6 to 52/6	[6] 47/6 to 52/6	[6] 44 3	[6]47/6 to 52/6	[6] 54 7	[6]47/6 to 52/6
Potteries—						
Adult Females ..	[6] 44 6	[10] 42 6	[6] 44 6	..	..	..
Printing—						
Jobbing Office Assistants	[6] 55 6	[6] 55 6	[6] 44 3	[6] 55 6	[6] 54 7	[6] 55 6
Lithographing Feeders	[6] 54 6	[6] 54 6	[6] 44 3	[6] 54 6	[6] 54 7	[6] 55 6
Rubber Working—						
Adult Females ..	[6] 46 6	[6] 45 4	..	..	..	..
Tent and Tarpaulin Making						
Machinists ..	[6] 54 0	[6] 54 0	[6] 54 0	45 0	[6] 48 5	[6] 54 0

GROUP XIII.—HOUSEHOLD, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Hotels—	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Barmaids	[6] 70 0	71 6	[6] 74 6	80 0	106 5	66 0
Housemaids ..	53 6	59 0	[6] 42 0	56 0	63 8	48/2 & 52/7
Laundresses ..	59 0	62 0	[6] 48 0	61 0	63 8	55 11
Waitresses—Head ..	59 6	62 0	[6] 42 0	61 0	..	63/1 & 69/8
,, Other ..	54 6	58 0	[6] 42 0	56 0	63 8	48/2 & 56/5
Laundries—						
General Hands ..	44 6	[6] 42 6	[6] 40 6	42 6	55 5	24 0
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	44/6 & 48/	[6] 52 6	[6] 40 6	46 6	61 5	24/ & 30/
Sorters	46 6	[6] 42 6	[6] 40 6	46 6	55 5	24 0
Starchers	44 6	[6] 50 0	[6] 40 6	42 6	55 5	24 0
Washers	44/6 & 50/6	[6]50/ to 85/	[6] 40 6	42 6	67 5	36 0
Office Cleaning—						
Adult Females ..	[6]53/ to 55/3	[6] 73 4	[6]54/6 to 58/6	39 6	[a] 1 9	..
Restaurants—						
Pantry Maids ..	52 0	47 6	[6] 43 0	43 6	[6] 58 11	49 4
Waitresses ..	52/ to 55/	47 6	[6] 43 0	50/ & 55/	[6] 60 11	48/2 to 56/5

(*a*) Per hour, with minimum of 25 hours per week.

SECTION V.—*continued.*

GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Clerks, &c.—						
Cashiers	51 9	[5]*a* & [10] 56/	[6] 69 6	[6] & [10] 53/	61 5*a*	[10] 60 0
Clerical Assistants ..	51 9	[5]*a* & [10] 56/	[6] 69 6	[6] & [10] 53/	..	[10] 60 0
Saleswomen— ..						
Boot	58 0	[12] 47 6	[6] 55 0	44 0	[6] 55/7 & 60/7	[10] 50 0
Drapery	58 0	50 0	[6] 55 0	44 0	[6] 55/7 & 64/1	[10] 50 0
Fruit and Confectionery	48 6	45 0	[6] 55 0	..	[6] 55 7	55 0
Newsagent and Bookstall	[6] 57 0	45/ & 50/	[6] 55 0	44 0	[6] 55 7	60 0
Tobacconists ..	59 0	85 0	[6] 55 0	51 6	[6] 55 7	55 0

(*a*) 38 hours, except in special circumstances.

APPENDIX.

Section VI.

Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour—Australia and Other Countries.

Industry and Occupation.	Australia (Sydney).				Great Britain and Northern Ireland (London).				New Zealand (Auckland).				Canada (Montreal).			
	July, 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.		August, 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.		March, 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.		Sept., 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
Furniture—																
Cabinet Makers	60 0	48	108 6	44	39 5	46½ to 54	82 3	47	60 8½	47	99 0	44	84 0	60	113 0 to 123 3	50 to 55
Upholsterers	60 0	48	108 6	44	38 8	46½ to 54	82 3	47	60 8½	47	99 0	44	84 0	60	113 0 to 123 3	50 to 55
French Polishers	60 0	48	108 6	44	37 5	46½ to 54	80 3	47	60 8½	47	99 0	44	84 0	60	113 0 to 123 3	50 to 55
Sawmilling—																
Machinists, Planing	63 0	48	100 0 to 106 0	48	..	..	..	..	57 0	47	102 10	47	60 0	55	98 7 to 115 1	44 to 55
„ Shaping	69 0	48	109 0	48	..	..	..	..	45 0	47	102 10	47	68 2	55	98 7 to 115 1	44 to 55
Sawyers, Band or Jig	68 0	48	100 0 to 112 0	48	..	..	..	..	54 0	47	102 10	47	68 2	55	123 3	55
„ Circular	54 0 to 60 0	48	98 0 to 106 0	48	..	..	..	..	48 0	47	..	..	61 7	55	119 2	60
Engineering, and Metal Working—																
Fitters and Turners	70 0	48	112 0	44	38 11	53 to 54	62 11	47	64 7	47	99 0	44	..	..	90 5 to 178 9	44 to 58

Patternmakers	74 0	48	121 0	44	42 1	53 to 54	66 7	47	89 0	49	99 0	44	88 0	55	135 7 to 143 10	44 to 55
Moulders (Iron)	68 0 and 72 0	48	97 0 to 112 0	44	41 8	53 to 54	62 11	47	64 7½	47	99 0	44	78 0	60	117 6 to 166 2	44 to 55
Tinsmiths	60 0	48	103 0	44	..	..	..	..	62 8	47	99 0	44	58 10	54	144 8	44
Milling (Flour)—																
Millers (Shift)	63 0 and 70 0	48	103 0 to 113 6	44	..	..	..	..	48 0	48	91 0*a*	48	78 0	60	123 3 to 156 2	60
Packermen	51 0	48	91 0	44	..	..	..	..	48 0	48	87 0	48	60 0	60	111 0	60
Bootmakers—	60 0	48	98 6	44	30 0	52½	56 0	48	52 6	45	88 11	44	93 0	55	123 3 to 164 5	48 to 57½
Tailoring (Ready made)—																
Cutters	65 0	48	111 0	44	..	..	..	..	52 0 to 60 0	45	84 0	44	72 0 to 80 0	49	147 11 to 176 8	44 to 48
Pressers (Coat)	60 0	48	108 0	44	..	..	..	..	55 0	45	87 6	44	60 0 to 80 0	49	147 11 to 172 7	44 to 48
Trimmers	65 0	48	108 0	44	..	..	..	..	52 0 to 60 0	45	84 0	44	60 0	49	123 3 to 156 2	44 to 48
Bookbinding—																
Bookbinders	65 0	48	112 0	44	33 11	50 to 51	80 0	48	65 0	48	102 6	44	72 0	48	138 8	48
Paper Rulers	65 0 to 77 6	48	112 0	44	33 11	50 to 51	80 0	48	65 0	48	102 6	44	80 0	48	138 8	48
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—																
Compositors (Day work)	88 0	48	135 0	44	35 8	50	89 0	48	65 0	48	102 6	44	88 0	48	180 10	48
Readers	80 0	48	140 0	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72 0	48	180 10	48
Compositors (Jobbing Offices) ..	65 0	48	112 0	44	35 8	50 to 51	89 0	48	65 0	48	102 6	44	74 0	48	172 7	48
Linotype Operators	80 0	48	124 0	44	..	..	..	..	74 0	48	110 0	42	..	..	..	..
Building—																
Bricklayers	78 0	48	126 6	44	40 7	49½	75 2	44	70 6	47	104 6	44	118 10	54	210 7	44
Carpenters	72 0	48	125 0	44	39 11	49½	75 2	44	64 7½	47	101 9	44	97 2	54	153 8 to 192 1	44 to 55

(*a*) Kilnmen.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR—AUSTRALIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).				CANADA (MONTREAL).			
	July, 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.		August, 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.		March, 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.		Sept., 1914.		31st Dec., 1930.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
Building—*continued.*	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
Labourers—Carpenters' ..	60 6	44	99 11	44	27 0	49½	56 10	44	51 4	47	80 8	44	64 10	54	63 3 to 111 0	44 to 60
Concrete Workers ..	60 6	44	99 11	44	27 0	49½	56 10	44	54 10	47	80 8	44	64 10	54	63 3 to 111 0	44 to 60
Earth Excavators ..	60 6	44	99 11	44	27 0	49½	56 10	44	54 10	47	80 8	44	64 10	54	63 3 to 111 0	44 to 60
Painters	64 0	48	115 10	44	36 3	49½	71 6	44	60 6	44	99 0	44	86 5	54	117 6 to 172 11	44 to 49½
Paperhangers	64 0	48	115 10	44	36 3	49½	71 6	44	60 6	44	99 0	48	86 5	54	117 6 to 172 11	44 to 49½
Plasterers	78 0	48	132 0	44	40 0	49½	75 2	44	66 0	44	104 6	44	105 7	48	172 7 to 213 7	44 to 49½
Plumbers	72 0	48	126 10	44	39 8	49½	75 2	44	62 4 to 66 0	44	99 0	44	91 10	54	162 9	44
Tramways—																
Conductors—																
1st year	48 0	48	97 6	} 96c	27 5	*a*	64 0	} 48	42 0	} 48	92 0	48	52 10	60	129 5	70
2nd year	51 0	48	100 6				to		to				52 10	60	143 10	70
3rd year	54 0	48	103 6				73 0		48 0				55 2	60	158 2	70
Motormen—																
1st year	54 0	48	100 6	} 96c	30 11	*a*	64 0	} 48	48 0	} 48	96 0	48	52 10	60	129 5	70
2nd year	57 0	48	103 6				to		to				52 10	60	143 10	70
3rd year	60 0	48	106 6				73 0		54 0				55 2	60	158 2	70
Carrying (Merchandise)—																
Carters (1 horse)	50 0	56½	93 6	48	25 7	*b*	57 0 to 58 0	48	48 0	48	88 0	48	84 0	54	69 10 to 90 5	57 to 63
Municipal—Labourers	57 0	48	98 6	48	26 9	*b*	60 3 to 66 6	47	50 11 to 58 9	} 47	90 1	47	48 7	54	98 7	60

(*a*) Hours were reduced in 1919. (*b*) Not available. (*c*) Ninety-six hours per fortnight.

Section VII.

Retail Price Index-Numbers—1911 *Base.*—The index-numbers in the following tables are computed for the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on a different basis to those given in previous sections of this Report. As indicated in the headings to the tables the rent constituent is based upon the weighted average of *all houses*. The index-numbers are directly comparable with those published in Labour Report, No. 15, and in Quarterly Summaries of Australian Statistics previous to No. 99.

Retail Price Index-Numbers—Food and Groceries Only.

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

Town.	1926.				1927.				1928.				1929.				1930.			
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
NEW SOUTH WALES.																				
Sydney	1,838	1,905	1,861	1,863	1,847	1,810	1,818	1,907	1,833	1,844	1,810	1,816	1,953	1,933	1,941	1,965	1,824	1,808	1,748	1,657
Newcastle	1,839	1,884	1,833	1,844	1,839	1,788	1,819	1,880	1,828	1,823	1,814	1,811	1,912	1,879	1,885	1,911	1,817	1,794	1,727	1,624
Broken Hill	2,111	2,224	2,034	2,047	2,097	2,113	2,184	2,222	2,204	2,158	2,129	2,131	2,271	2,284	2,299	2,342	2,214	2,195	2,068	1,978
Goulburn	1,863	1,881	1,811	1,849	1,834	1,809	1,828	1,892	1,852	1,858	1,849	1,840	1,947	1,935	1,951	1,988	1,856	1,800	1,722	1,609
Bathurst	1,770	1,835	1,790	1,770	1,794	1,754	1,765	1,810	1,769	1,785	1,771	1,749	1,898	1,846	1,850	1,884	1,790	1,775	1,712	1,615
Weighted Average—New South Wales ..	1,845	1,910	1,864	1,865	1,852	1,816	1,828	1,912	1,842	1,850	1,819	1,824	1,958	1,937	1,945	1,970	1,833	1,817	1,754	1,661
VICTORIA.																				
Melbourne	1,750	1,860	1,759	1,723	1,698	1,692	1,777	1,761	1,715	1,709	1,658	1,653	1,773	1,800	1,800	1,809	1,683	1,677	1,640	1,528
Ballarat	1,796	1,852	1,818	1,781	1,761	1,736	1,798	1,780	1,741	1,735	1,723	1,704	1,802	1,812	1,856	1,888	1,767	1,763	1,703	1,573
Bendigo	1,797	1,853	1,774	1,784	1,761	1,738	1,804	1,780	1,738	1,737	1,724	1,706	1,841	1,832	1,883	1,891	1,766	1,783	1,733	1,574
Geelong	1,751	1,820	1,754	1,721	1,717	1,704	1,741	1,740	1,710	1,712	1,687	1,704	1,792	1,784	1,809	1,835	1,664	1,671	1,623	1,539
Warrnambool	1,711	1,824	1,774	1,711	1,675	1,676	1,722	1,715	1,692	1,675	1,631	1,642	1,708	1,719	1,810	1,844	1,719	1,713	1,653	1,583
Weighted Average—Victoria	1,753	1,858	1,762	1,731	1,703	1,696	1,777	1,761	1,717	1,711	1,663	1,658	1,776	1,800	1,805	1,816	1,689	1,685	1,645	1,532
QUEENSLAND.																				
Brisbane	1,773	1,778	1,796	1,805	1,719	1,642	1,667	1,692	1,669	1,669	1,650	1,695	1,729	1,690	1,684	1,700	1,605	1,537	1,490	1,402
Toowoomba	1,730	1,791	1,782	1,775	1,712	1,585	1,595	1,630	1,575	1,584	1,597	1,616	1,670	1,632	1,651	1,691	1,590	1,547	1,496	1,419
Rockhampton	1,834	1,886	1,892	1,885	1,856	1,767	1,780	1,783	1,727	1,735	1,715	1,763	1,833	1,786	1,797	1,813	1,743	1,656	1,611	1,514
Charters Towers	1,967	2,026	2,041	2,088	2,118	2,008	2,001	2,016	1,962	1,919	1,908	1,986	2,016	1,947	1,979	1,940	1,852	1,796	1,656	1,608
Warwick	1,726	1,810	1,807	1,839	1,788	1,695	1,718	1,733	1,651	1,655	1,655	1,694	1,755	1,710	1,725	1,756	1,651	1,603	1,556	1,460
Weighted Average—Queensland	1,781	1,798	1,812	1,821	1,746	1,663	1,685	1,708	1,677	1,677	1,661	1,705	1,745	1,704	1,703	1,719	1,626	1,559	1,508	1,421

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS—FOOD AND GROCERIES ONLY—*continued.*

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

Town.	1926.				1927.				1928.				1929.				1930.			
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.																				
Adelaide	1,861	1,967	1,839	1,808	1,831	1,822	1,873	1,839	1,810	1,828	1,751	1,713	1,844	1,891	1,921	1,890	1,779	1,758	1,633	1,528
Kadina, &c.	1,902	1,988	1,908	1,905	1,916	1,915	1,913	1,915	1,920	1,905	1,869	1,883	1,993	2,011	2,055	2,073	1,942	1,931	1,837	1,700
Port Pirie	1,998	2,064	1,979	1,939	1,928	1,903	1,922	1,911	1,903	1,905	1,849	1,842	1,974	1,958	1,993	2,014	1,917	1,910	1,784	1,679
Mount Gambier	1,778	1,885	1,853	1,804	1,814	1,795	1,833	1,816	1,806	1,799	1,785	1,744	1,825	1,833	1,864	1,869	1,755	1,675	1,641	1,540
Peterborough	1,924	2,046	1,985	1,973	1,966	1,952	1,968	1,995	2,006	1,998	1,955	1,932	2,086	2,058	2,103	2,091	1,954	1,947	1,865	1,699
Weighted Average—South Australia ..	1,867	1,971	1,848	1,818	1,838	1,830	1,877	1,846	1,820	1,835	1,761	1,728	1,856	1,899	1,930	1,904	1,792	1,771	1,649	1,542
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.																				
Perth, &c.	1,854	1,940	1,861	1,807	1,812	1,828	1,775	1,769	1,768	1,903	1,930	1,929	1,952	1,994	1,937	1,868	1,820	1,808	1,700	1,546
Kalgoorlie, &c.	2,121	2,182	2,138	2,057	2,058	2,086	2,053	2,012	2,003	2,060	2,158	2,166	2,245	2,324	2,312	2,177	2,087	2,130	2,078	1,843
Northam	1,991	2,095	2,010	1,974	1,953	2,000	1,959	1,939	1,891	1,969	2,016	2,020	2,057	2,124	2,078	2,013	1,938	1,954	1,873	1,684
Bunbury	1,932	2,057	2,037	1,998	2,004	1,983	1,963	1,980	1,959	2,017	2,063	2,043	2,062	2,123	2,127	2,076	2,018	2,015	1,915	1,701
Geraldton	1,989	2,053	2,012	1,982	1,980	1,966	1,956	1,971	1,946	1,955	1,956	1,981	2,021	2,068	2,089	2,037	1,977	1,972	1,903	1,691
Weighted Average—Western Australia ..	1,889	1,973	1,900	1,845	1,848	1,865	1,816	1,807	1,803	1,924	1,959	1,959	1,988	2,035	1,986	1,911	1,858	1,853	1,752	1,586
TASMANIA.																				
Hobart	1,879	1,911	1,860	1,822	1,812	1,787	1,795	1,760	1,730	1,736	1,717	1,725	1,838	1,824	1,823	1,849	1,762	1,757	1,705	1,584
Launceston	1,826	1,895	1,862	1,789	1,801	1,770	1,756	1,733	1,711	1,715	1,686	1,673	1,760	1,747	1,772	1,840	1,734	1,713	1,679	1,574
Burnie	1,902	1,946	1,895	1,853	1,819	1,824	1,827	1,801	1,792	1,825	1,783	1,799	1,889	1,892	1,957	1,969	1,832	1,857	1,799	1,676
Devonport	1,880	1,915	1,889	1,858	1,844	1,796	1,819	1,737	1,718	1,770	1,739	1,731	1,844	1,836	1,870	1,872	1,719	1,719	1,691	1,577
Queenstown	2,082	2,118	2,085	2,050	2,008	1,963	1,980	1,955	1,924	1,939	1,927	1,934	2,039	2,025	2,034	2,054	1,940	1,949	1,919	1.829
Weighted Average—Tasmania	1,872	1,916	1,871	1,824	1,818	1,790	1,793	1,760	1,733	1,743	1,719	1,721	1,826	1,813	1,824	1,860	1,761	1,753	1,708	1,593
Weighted Average—Thirty Towns.. ..	1,815	1,893	1,827	1,810	1,792	1,766	1,801	1,825	1,777	1,789	1,754	1,755	1,866	1,869	1,874	1,882	1,762	1,745	1,682	1,577
Weighted Average—Six Capital Cities ..	1,808	1,888	1,820	1,803	1,782	1,758	1,794	1,820	1,771	1,784	1,745	1,746	1,859	1,865	1,867	1,873	1,751	1,734	1,673	1,568

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

Retail Price Index-Numbers—Housing—All Houses.

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

TOWN.	1926.				1927.				1928.				1929.				1930.			
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
NEW SOUTH WALES.																				
Sydney	1,813	1,814	1,811	1,812	1,801	1,793	1,819	1,820	1,865	1,865	1,846	1,850	1,863	1,865	1,874	1,878	1,890	1,877	1,817	1,773
Newcastle	1,504	1,507	1,507	1,501	1,532	1,532	1,532	1,595	1,580	1,579	1,576	1,571	1,583	1,583	1,583	1,565	1,563	1,546	1,516	1,498
Broken Hill	931	949	979	984	981	1,013	1,016	1,000	1,004	1,006	1,003	1,003	1,010	1,013	1,006	1,006	1,010	1,015	1,012	1,012
Goulburn	1,674	1,679	1,769	1,739	1,759	1,749	1,807	1,791	1,814	1,814	1,794	1,811	1,824	1,827	1,830	1,837	1,846	1,832	1,791	1,630
Bathurst	1,248	1,245	1,246	1,246	1,267	1,264	1,248	1,240	1,249	1,260	1,263	1,262	1,287	1,290	1,290	1,295	1,310	1,310	1,300	1,316
Weighted Average—New South Wales ..	1,758	1,760	1,759	1,759	1,752	1,746	1,770	1,775	1,813	1,813	1,797	1,799	1,812	1,814	1,822	1,824	1,835	1,822	1,767	1,724
VICTORIA.																				
Melbourne	1,821	1,844	1,844	1,847	1,841	1,842	1,861	1,856	1,843	1,835	1,832	1,830	1,842	1,839	1,839	1,824	1,805	1,788	1,706	1,620
Ballarat	1,186	1,201	1,204	1,201	1,203	1,224	1,231	1,229	1,282	1,283	1,298	1,305	1,320	1,320	1,320	1,322	1,311	1,308	1,304	1,286
Bendigo	1,183	1,245	1,246	1,244	1,283	1,284	1,308	1,312	1,364	1,363	1,361	1,342	1,324	1,319	1,327	1,327	1,306	1,279	1,228	1,219
Geelong	1,647	1,643	1,643	1,643	1,668	1,699	1,708	1,711	1,714	1,666	1,650	1,650	1,644	1,622	1,613	1,589	1,593	1,556	1,511	1,457
Warrnambool	1,314	1,299	1,300	1,317	1,365	1,365	1,385	1,431	1,431	1,432	1,432	1,432	1,430	1,430	1,430	1,463	1,473	1,494	1,494	1,494
Weighted Average—Victoria	1,761	1,784	1,784	1,787	1,784	1,787	1,806	1,802	1,795	1,786	1,783	1,781	1,791	1,787	1,788	1,774	1,756	1,739	1,663	1,585
QUEENSLAND.																				
Brisbane	1,459	1,458	1,460	1,460	1,462	1,467	1,497	1,492	1,490	1,485	1,490	1,484	1,495	1,495	1,515	1,515	1,481	1,351	1,286	1,257
Toowoomba	1,324	1,331	1,335	1,336	1,305	1,311	1,298	1,299	1,268	1,268	1,260	1,261	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,245	1,258	1,256	1,253	1,219
Rockhampton	1,216	1,218	1,218	1,255	1,332	1,316	1,298	1,268	1,214	1,211	1,205	1,217	1,214	1,200	1,200	1,195	1,240	1,238	1,231	1,228
Charters Towers	804	804	819	819	810	810	810	810	851	891	891	903	957	974	971	966	960	991	941	910
Warwick	1,201	1,201	1,204	1,204	1,137	1,163	1,163	1,161	1,102	1,107	1,110	1,110	1,126	1,120	1,120	1,120	1,116	1,116	1,116	1,106
Weighted Average—Queensland	1,398	1,398	1,401	1,404	1,409	1,411	1,433	1,427	1,417	1,415	1,417	1,415	1,424	1,424	1,439	1,438	1,416	1,316	1,263	1,236

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS—HOUSING—ALL HOUSES—*continued.*

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

Town.	1926.				1927.				1928.				1929.				1930.			
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.																				
Adelaide	1,557	1,556	1,551	1,548	1,580	1,585	1,624	1,615	1,683	1,664	1,658	1,654	1,654	1,632	1,581	1,561	1,559	1,509	1,464	1,376
Kadina, &c.	732	728	805	803	834	836	824	847	810	787	788	791	767	698	699	694	679	655	651	633
Port Pirie	1,065	1,066	1,065	1,068	1,065	1,069	1,083	1,079	1,078	1,078	1,078	1,079	1,078	1,075	1,075	1,059	1,046	1,056	1,078	1,070
Mount Gambier	814	814	816	822	799	801	804	850	867	867	877	881	885	888	888	888	893	893	893	893
Peterborough	1,109	1,109	1,195	1,195	1,201	1,215	1,207	1,226	1,216	1,205	1,226	1,231	1,247	1,244	1,265	1,260	1,258	1,249	1,241	1,218
Weighted Average—South Australia	1,490	1,490	1,489	1,486	1,516	1,521	1,556	1,550	1,609	1,591	1,586	1,583	1,582	1,559	1,513	1,495	1,491	1,445	1,405	1,325
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.																				
Perth, &c.	1,311	1,320	1,318	1,314	1,307	1,304	1,338	1,376	1,377	1,382	1,384	1,385	1,396	1,381	1,400	1,405	1,431	1,425	1,411	1,361
Kalgoorlie, &c.	770	759	752	756	738	738	736	736	731	735	745	746	740	725	722	722	720	729	745	744
Northam	1,042	1,041	1,061	1,082	1,081	1,080	1,130	1,179	1,113	1,097	1,093	1,094	1,101	1,087	1,089	1,089	1,115	1,115	1,105	1,103
Bunbury	896	913	906	905	913	913	898	893	903	903	918	896	883	881	884	884	940	941	930	930
Geraldton	1,022	1,022	1,022	1,022	1,022	1,020	1,003	1,003	1,019	1,019	1,019	1,045	1,063	1,051	1,048	1,045	1,110	1,139	1,203	1,198
Weighted Average—Western Australia	1,234	1,241	1,238	1,235	1,228	1,225	1,254	1,287	1,285	1,290	1,293	1,294	1,303	1,288	1,304	1,308	1,332	1,329	1,321	1,278
TASMANIA.																				
Hobart	1,661	1,628	1,658	1,654	1,629	1,611	1,591	1,580	1,554	1,564	1,562	1,581	1,576	1,574	1,585	1,584	1,581	1,582	1,573	1,535
Launceston	1,374	1,373	1,368	1,350	1,338	1,334	1,346	1,360	1,426	1,428	1,426	1,419	1,413	1,416	1,422	1,422	1,411	1,414	1,385	1,382
Burnie	1,370	1,370	1,383	1,278	1,237	1,220	1,220	1,220	1,244	1,250	1,246	1,257	1,282	1,237	1,241	1,240	1,240	1,247	1,225	1,164
Devonport	1,327	1,313	1,298	1,292	1,307	1,275	1,271	1,301	1,332	1,315	1,256	1,248	1,271	1,276	1,206	1,296	1,281	1,271	1,272	1,247
Queenstown	552	552	527	490	490	490	557	607	624	643	684	678	713	715	716	755	781	782	798	798
Weighted Average—Tasmania	1,514	1,493	1,509	1,495	1,477	1,463	1,456	1,456	1,463	1,469	1,465	1,475	1,473	1,472	1,481	1,482	1,477	1,478	1,465	1,438
Weighted Average—Thirty Towns	1,652	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,659	1,658	1,680	1,682	1,700	1,695	1,688	1,688	1,698	1,694	1,695	1,690	1,687	1,662	1,606	1,550
Weighted Average—Six Capital Cities	**1,719**	**1,727**	**1,726**	**1,726**	**1,723**	**1,721**	**1,746**	**1,746**	**1,765**	**1,760**	**1,752**	**1,752**	**1,762**	**1,759**	**1,761**	**1,755**	1,752	1,724	1,662	1,600

Retail Price Index-Numbers—Food, Groceries and Rent—All Houses.

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

Town.	1926.				1927.				1928.				1929.				1930.			
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
NEW SOUTH WALES.																				
Sydney	1,828	1,868	1,841	1,842	1,828	1,803	1,819	1,872	1,846	1,853	1,825	1,830	1,916	1,905	1,914	1,929	1,851	1,836	1,776	1,704
Newcastle	1,701	1,729	1,699	1,703	1,713	1,683	1,701	1,763	1,726	1,722	1,716	1,712	1,777	1,758	1,761	1,769	1,713	1,692	1,641	1,572
Broken Hill	1,626	1,700	1,629	1,610	1,638	1,661	1,704	1,720	1,711	1,685	1,666	1,667	1,753	1,761	1,768	1,793	1,719	1,710	1,634	1,581
Goulburn	1,785	1,798	1,794	1,804	1,803	1,784	1,820	1,851	1,836	1,840	1,827	1,828	1,897	1,891	1,901	1,926	1,852	1,813	1,750	1,617
Bathurst	1,555	1,593	1,566	1,555	1,577	1,552	1,553	1,575	1,555	1,569	1,562	1,549	1,647	1,618	1,620	1,642	1,593	1,584	1,543	1,492
Weighted Average—New South Wales ..	1,809	1,849	1,821	1,821	1,811	1,787	1,804	1,856	1,830	1,835	1,810	1,814	1,898	1,887	1,895	1,910	1,834	1,819	1,759	1,687
VICTORIA.																				
Melbourne	1,779	1,854	1,794	1,777	1,757	1,754	1,812	1,800	1,768	1,761	1,729	1,726	1,801	1,816	1,816	1,815	1,733	1,723	1,667	1,565
Ballarat	1,545	1,584	1,565	1,543	1,532	1,525	1,565	1,554	1,553	1,549	1,548	1,540	1,604	1,610	1,636	1,655	1,579	1,576	1,542	1,455
Bendigo	1,544	1,603	1,557	1,562	1,564	1,551	1,600	1,588	1,584	1,583	1,575	1,556	1,629	1,621	1,655	1,659	1,577	1,576	1,525	1,428
Geelong	1,708	1,747	1,709	1,689	1,697	1,702	1,727	1,728	1,712	1,693	1,672	1,681	1,731	1,717	1,729	1,734	1,635	1,624	1,577	1,505
Warrnambool	1,548	1,608	1,579	1,549	1,547	1,548	1,584	1,599	1,585	1,575	1,549	1,556	1,594	1,600	1,654	1,688	1,618	1,623	1,588	1,547
Weighted Average—Victoria	1,756	1,828	1,771	1,754	1,737	1,733	1,789	1,778	1,749	1,742	1,713	1,709	1,782	1,795	1,798	1,799	1,717	1,707	1,653	1,554
QUEENSLAND.																				
Brisbane	1,643	1,646	1,658	1,663	1,614	1,570	1,598	1,610	1,596	1,593	1,584	1,608	1,633	1,610	1,615	1,624	1,554	1,461	1,406	1,342
Toowoomba	1,563	1,602	1,599	1,595	1,545	1,472	1,473	1,494	1,449	1,454	1,458	1,470	1,499	1,477	1,488	1,508	1,453	1,427	1,396	1,337
Rockhampton	1,580	1,611	1,615	1,626	1,641	1,581	1,582	1,571	1,516	1,520	1,505	1,539	1,579	1,545	1,551	1,559	1,536	1,484	1,455	1,397
Charters Towers	1,489	1,524	1,539	1,566	1,580	1,516	1,511	1,520	1,505	1,497	1,490	1,541	1,580	1,547	1,565	1,539	1,485	1,465	1,362	1,321
Warwick	1,510	1,560	1,559	1,578	1,520	1,476	1,490	1,498	1,425	1,430	1,431	1,454	1,496	1,468	1,476	1,495	1,431	1,406	1,375	1,314
Weighted Average—Queensland	1,623	1,634	1,643	1,649	1,608	1,560	1,581	1,592	1,570	1,569	1,561	1,586	1,613	1,589	1,595	1,603	1,539	1,459	1,407	1,345

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS—FOOD, GROCERIES AND RENT—ALL HOUSES—*continued.*

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

Town.	1926.				1927.				1928.				1929.				1930.			
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.																				
Adelaide	1,736	1,798	1,720	1,701	1,727	1,725	1,771	1,747	1,758	1,760	1,713	1,689	1,766	1,784	1,781	1,755	1,689	1,655	1,563	1,466
Kadina, &c.	1,421	1,470	1,455	1,452	1,471	1,471	1,465	1,476	1,464	1,445	1,424	1,434	1,489	1,471	1,497	1,506	1,423	1,406	1,350	1,261
Port Pirie	1,615	1,654	1,604	1,581	1,573	1,560	1,577	1,569	1,564	1,565	1,532	1,528	1,606	1,595	1,618	1,621	1,559	1,559	1,494	1,429
Mount Gambier	1,382	1,445	1,427	1,400	1,397	1,387	1,410	1,419	1,420	1,416	1,411	1,389	1,439	1,445	1,463	1,466	1,401	1,353	1,333	1,274
Peterborough	1,589	1,661	1,660	1,653	1,651	1,649	1,656	1,679	1,682	1,672	1,655	1,673	1,741	1,724	1,758	1,749	1,668	1,660	1,608	1,501
Weighted Average—South Australia ..	1,712	1,773	1,700	1,681	1,706	1,703	1,745	1,724	1,733	1,734	1,689	1,668	1,743	1,759	1,759	1,736	1,669	1,637	1,549	1,453
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.																				
Perth, &c.	1,631	1,685	1,638	1,604	1,604	1,612	1,595	1,608	1,607	1,689	1,706	1,705	1,724	1,742	1,716	1,678	1,660	1,651	1,581	1,470
Kalgoorlie, &c.	1,566	1,597	1,568	1,522	1,515	1,532	1,512	1,487	1,480	1,515	1,577	1,583	1,626	1,667	1,659	1,579	1,525	1,554	1,530	1,391
Northam	1,601	1,662	1,620	1,607	1,595	1,621	1,618	1,627	1,571	1,610	1,637	1,639	1,664	1,697	1,672	1,633	1,599	1,609	1,557	1,446
Bunbury	1,506	1,587	1,572	1,549	1,556	1,543	1,525	1,533	1,525	1,559	1,593	1,572	1,578	1,613	1,616	1,586	1,575	1,574	1,510	1,384
Geraldton	1,592	1,629	1,605	1,587	1,586	1,577	1,565	1,573	1,565	1,570	1,571	1,596	1,627	1,650	1,661	1,629	1,621	1,630	1,615	1,488
Weighted Average—Western Australia ..	1,620	1,672	1,628	1,594	1,594	1,602	1,585	1,593	1,590	1,664	1,685	1,686	1,707	1,728	1,706	1,663	1,642	1,638	1,575	1,460
TASMANIA.																				
Hobart	1,789	1,795	1,777	1,753	1,737	1,715	1,711	1,686	1,658	1,665	1,653	1,666	1,730	1,721	1,725	1,740	1,687	1,685	1,651	1,564
Launceston	1,640	1,680	1,659	1,609	1,611	1,591	1,587	1,580	1,594	1,597	1,580	1,569	1,618	1,611	1,628	1,668	1,602	1,590	1,558	1,495
Burnie	1,683	1,709	1,684	1,617	1,580	1,576	1,577	1,562	1,566	1,588	1,562	1,576	1,640	1,623	1,663	1,669	1,589	1,606	1,563	1,466
Devonport	1,652	1,667	1,646	1,625	1,624	1,582	1,594	1,557	1,559	1,583	1,540	1,532	1,609	1,605	1,634	1,635	1,539	1,535	1,519	1,441
Queenstown	1,453	1,474	1,444	1,408	1,384	1,357	1,395	1,401	1,389	1,406	1,416	1,418	1,494	1,487	1,492	1,520	1,464	1,469	1,458	1,405
Weighted Average—Tasmania ..	1,725	1,742	1,722	1,689	1,678	1,656	1,655	1,635	1,622	1,630	1,615	1,620	1,681	1,673	1,683	1,704	1,644	1,640	1,608	1,529
Weighted Average—Thirty Towns ..	1,748	1,797	1,758	1,749	1,737	1,722	1,751	1,766	1,745	1,750	1,727	1,728	1,797	1,797	1,800	1,803	1,731	1,711	1,651	1,566
Weighted Average—Six Capital Cities ..	1,771	1,822	1,781	1,771	1,758	1,743	1,774	1,789	1,768	1,774	1,748	1,749	1,820	1,821	1,823	1,825	1,752	1,730	1,668	1,582

Retail Price Index-Numbers—Capital Cities—Annual Figures—1901 *to* 1930.—The index-numbers given in the separate parts of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show the relative cost of (say) housing, and food and groceries, since the weighted average cost for the six capital cities taken together in 1911 in each group or combination is made equal to 1,000.

Weighted Average—Six Capitals in 1911 = 1,000.

FOOD AND GROCERIES ONLY.

City.	1901.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1915:	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Sydney	917	936	989	1,156	1,396	1,520	1,540	1,549	1,783	2,148	1,898	1,703	1,820	1,732	1,785	1,867	1,846	1,826	1,948	1,759
Melbourne	965	925	935	1,091	1,411	1,462	1,412	1,466	1,620	2,056	1,901	1,644	1,802	1,684	1,748	1,774	1,732	1,684	1,795	1,632
Brisbane	965	947	1,018	1,078	1,373	1,426	1,406	1,495	1,762	2,052	1,812	1,608	1,693	1,690	1,734	1,788	1,680	1,671	1,701	1,508
Adelaide	1,028	951	1,020	1,215	1,487	1,532	1,445	1,554	1,719	2,132	1,906	1,723	1,823	1,791	1,840	1,869	1,841	1,775	1,887	1,674
Perth	1,184	1,197	1,346	1,302	1,483	1,542	1,505	1,486	1,772	2,050	1,995	1,776	1,828	1,891	1,938	1,866	1,796	1,882	1,938	1,719
Hobart	1,011	1,010	1,058	1,212	1,445	1,523	1,544	1,635	1,748	2,162	2,025	1,794	1,863	1,849	1,810	1,868	1,788	1,727	1,833	1,702
Weighted Average—Six Capitals	972	955	1,000	1,144	1,416	1,495	1,472	1,514	1,716	2,101	1,902	1,684	1,805	1,732	1,785	1,829	1,789	1,761	1,866	1,682

HOUSING—ALL HOUSES.

Sydney	858	911	1,090	1,279	1,220	1,212	1,215	1,252	1,289	1,415	1,474	1,535	1,617	1,687	1,729	1,813	1,808	1,857	1,870	1,839
Melbourne	733	804	970	1,126	1,085	1,089	1,124	1,180	1,283	1,405	1,502	1,597	1,672	1,729	1,742	1,839	1,850	1,835	1,836	1,729
Brisbane	488	575	767	882	859	847	859	905	983	1,061	1,079	1,206	1,247	1,242	1,251	1,459	1,480	1,487	1,505	1,344
Adelaide	629	812	1,112	1,040	932	930	959	1,022	1,108	1,216	1,289	1,360	1,450	1,551	1,565	1,553	1,601	1,665	1,607	1,477
Perth	801	684	810	914	848	869	874	885	916	996	1,055	1,092	1,124	1,134	1,154	1,316	1,331	1,382	1,395	1,407
Hobart	667	708	805	914	928	928	951	956	1,134	1,373	1,440	1,445	1,602	1,665	1,634	1,650	1,603	1,565	1,580	1,568
Weighted Average—Six Capitals	751	816	1,000	1,135	1,081	1,080	1,098	1,143	1,215	1,333	1,404	1,480	1,551	1,609	1,632	1,725	1,734	1,758	1,760	1,685

FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING—ALL HOUSES—COMBINED.

Sydney	893	926	1,031	1,206	1,323	1,394	1,406	1,427	1,580	1,847	1,724	1,634	1,737	1,714	1,762	1,844	1,830	1,839	1,916	1,792
Melbourne	870	875	950	1,105	1,277	1,309	1,294	1,349	1,481	1,788	1,737	1,625	1,749	1,703	1,745	1,801	1,781	1,746	1,812	1,672
Brisbane	769	794	915	997	1,162	1,188	1,181	1,252	1,442	1,645	1,511	1,442	1,510	1,506	1,535	1,653	1,598	1,595	1,620	1,441
Adelaide	864	894	1,058	1,143	1,259	1,285	1,245	1,335	1,468	1,756	1,653	1,574	1,670	1,693	1,727	1,739	1,742	1,730	1,772	1,593
Perth	1,027	986	1,126	1,143	1,222	1,266	1,246	1,239	1,420	1,617	1,609	1,495	1,538	1,580	1,616	1,640	1,605	1,677	1,715	1,591
Hobart	869	886	954	1,090	1,233	1,278	1,301	1,356	1,496	1,837	1,785	1,651	1,756	1,773	1,738	1,778	1,712	1,661	1,729	1,647
Weighted Average—Six Capitals	880	897	1,000	1,140	1,278	1,324	1,318	1,362	1,510	1,785	1,697	1,600	1,700	1,682	1,722	1,786	1,766	1,760	1,822	1,683

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

Index-Numbers, 30 Towns, showing Relative Expenditure on Food and Groceries and on Housing (All Houses) separately, and on these Items combined. Basis of Table—Weighted Average Expenditure on Food, Groceries, and Housing (All Houses) in the Six Capital Cities in 1911 = 1,000.

Town.	1928.			1929.			1930.		
	Food and Groceries.	Housing. (All Houses)	Food, Groceries, and Housing.	Food and Groceries.	Housing. (All Houses)	Food, Groceries, and Housing.	Food and Groceries.	Housing. (All Houses)	Food, Groceries, and Housing.
NEW SOUTH WALES—									
Sydney	1,076	763	1,839	1,147	769	1,916	1,036	756	1,792
Newcastle	1,071	648	1,719	1,117	649	1,766	1,025	629	1,654
Broken Hill	1,270	412	1,682	1,354	415	1,769	1,245	416	1,661
Goulburn	1,090	743	1,833	1,152	752	1,904	1,029	729	1,758
Bathurst	1,042	517	1,559	1,101	530	1,631	1,015	538	1,553
Weighted Average ..	1,080	742	1,822	1,150	747	1,897	1,040	735	1,775
VICTORIA—									
Melbourne	992	754	1,746	1,057	755	1,812	961	711	1,672
Ballarat	1,017	531	1,548	1,083	543	1,626	1,003	535	1,538
Bendigo	1,017	558	1,575	1,096	545	1,641	1,009	517	1,526
Geelong	1,003	687	1,690	1,063	665	1,728	957	628	1,585
Warrnambool ..	978	588	1,566	1,043	591	1,634	982	612	1,594
Weighted Average ..	994	734	1,728	1,060	734	1,794	965	693	1,658
QUEENSLAND—									
Brisbane	984	611	1,595	1,002	618	1,620	888	553	1,441
Toowoomba ..	938	520	1,458	978	515	1,493	891	512	1,403
Rockhampton ..	1,022	498	1,520	1,065	494	1,559	961	507	1,468
Charters Towers ..	1,145	363	1,508	1,160	398	1,558	1,018	391	1,409
Warwick	980	455	1,435	1,023	461	1,484	924	458	1,382
Weighted Average ..	989	582	1,571	1,012	588	1,600	900	538	1,438
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—									
Adelaide	1,046	684	1,730	1,111	661	1,772	936	607	1,593
Kadina, &c.	1,116	326	1,442	1,197	294	1,491	1,091	269	1,360
Port Pirie	1,104	443	1,547	1,170	440	1,610	1,073	437	1,510
Mount Gambier ..	1,050	359	1,409	1,088	365	1,453	973	367	1,340
Peterborough ..	1,169	501	1,670	1,223	515	1,743	1,099	510	1,609
Weighted Average ..	1,052	654	1,706	1,117	632	1,749	994	583	1,577
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—									
Perth, &c.	1,109	568	1,677	1,141	574	1,715	1,012	579	1,591
Kalgoorlie, &c. ..	1,235	304	1,539	1,334	299	1,633	1,198	302	1,500
Northam	1,162	452	1,614	1,218	449	1,667	1,097	456	1,553
Bunbury	1,190	372	1,562	1,235	363	1,598	1,126	385	1,511
Geraldton	1,154	422	1,576	1,210	432	1,642	1,110	477	1,588
Weighted Average ..	1,126	530	1,656	1,166	535	1,701	1,038	541	1,579
TASMANIA—									
Hobart	1,017	644	1,661	1,080	649	1,729	1,002	645	1,647
Launcetson	999	586	1,585	1,048	583	1,631	987	574	1,561
Burnie	1,060	513	1,573	1,135	514	1,649	1,055	501	1,556
Devonport	1,024	530	1,554	1,093	528	1,621	988	521	1,509
Queenstown ..	1,137	270	1,407	1,200	298	1,498	1,124	325	1,449
Weighted Average ..	1,018	604	1,622	1,078	607	1,685	1,004	602	1,606
Weighted Average for 30 Towns	1,042	696	1,738	1,103	696	1,799	996	669	1,665
Weighted Average 6 Capital Cities ..	**1,037**	**723**	**1,760**	**1,099**	**723**	**1,822**	**990**	**693**	**1,683**

Section VIII.

WAGES AND PRICES.

A Short Examination of the Accuracy of the Retail Price Index-Number used in the Adjustment of Wages.

(SECOND EDITION—REVISED.)

Prepared under instructions from the Minister of State for Home Affairs,

BY

L. F. GIBLIN,

Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

2710.—6

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WAGES AND PRICES.

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Section II.—The basic wage and retail prices.

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II.—Retail Prices, wage rates and " real " wages.

PREFATORY NOTE.

It has been said that the civilization of a country is better measured by its use of index-numbers than by its use of motor-cars. It is not enough, however, to use them extensively for important practical decisions, as we do in Australia; we must use them with understanding and confidence.

These few pages are meant for a help to understanding and confidence. Explanations are given and present-day difficulties are discussed so far as possible in plain and untechnical language; and, I hope, honestly. But the subject is inherently difficult, and the reader must contribute his quota of hard thinking—and honest thinking—if profit is to come of it.

L. F. GIBLIN,
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

Canberra, F.C.T.
5th November, 1931.

SECOND EDITION.

The opportunity has been taken to revise and expand the original text in the interests of clearness and accuracy. Most of the amendments spring from the criticism of the many friends who have dealt faithfully with the imperfections of the first print, among whom I may thank particularly Mr. E. T. McPhee, the Deputy-Statistician in Hobart.

L. F. G.

4th December, 1931.

WAGES AND PRICES.

SECTION I.

The Measurement of Retail Prices.

1. An index of retail prices was first compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician in 1911, as part of an investigation into the movement of prices generally, wholesale, retail, export and import. The main object was to supply the data for consideration on an international scale of the major economic problems of the relations between money, production, trade and employment, the importance of which has, since the war, recorded very ample recognition. (*See* Labour Report No. 1, Introduction, paragraph 1). The measurement of retail prices was not expressly undertaken for wage-fixing purposes, though no doubt its probable usefulness as a help in wage adjustments was recognized. The precise and rigid use to which it has been put could not have been foreseen.

2. The principle on which the index of prices was made is as follows. An assortment of goods in common use is made, so many pounds of bread, flour, butter, tea, meat, etc., in proportion to the amounts consumed by the whole of the people of Australia. This assortment is called a "basket" of goods. If the cost of this basket of goods is made out at two different times at the prices obtaining at those times, then the change in the total cost of the "basket" will measure the change in the general level of prices of the goods in the basket. If the basket cost 120s. at one time and 132s. at a later time, then prices would have risen 12s. in 120s. or 10 per cent. The difference between prices at two places is measured in the same way.

3. The "basket" might perhaps contain 10 lb. of bread to 5 lb. of sugar, 8 lb. of meat of various kinds, 1 lb. of butter, 3 quarts of milk and smaller quantities of twenty other foods. These are not the exact quantities used but they give a rough picture of them. Of course, the proportion of quantities would not suit every household. (Theoretically every household should have its own price-index.) The proportions of the various foods, e.g., 5 lb. of sugar to 1 lb. of butter, are the actual averages for all households. It is found by trial that the ordinary differences between households cause very little divergence from the average result, except in a few very special cases, such as vegetarians. Even for these, since it is the change in prices that we are trying to measure the result based on average consumption will not be very far out, and may be either higher or lower than the true index for these special individuals.

4. For any such index to be valid, the basket must always contain the same goods of the same quality or grade and in the same quantity. Therefore, the goods must be such that both quantity and grade can be clearly and definitely described. If any goods cannot be definitely described in this way, they must be left out of the basket.

5. The simple foods best fill these conditions; and after foods, the best are house-rents. All clothing is difficult because the grades and qualities cannot be exactly described and are always changing. Household gear of all kinds—crockery, pots, brushes, furnishings—is nearly as difficult as clothing.

6. Consequently, when the index was first made, only food and groceries and house rents were taken into account. The result should be a good and trustworthy index for food and rent. Let this be assumed for the present. Possible defects will be examined later (Section III.).

SECTION I.

7. Food and rent make about 60 per cent. of all family expenditure on consumption on the average for all wage earners. What about the other 40 per cent.?

8. Prices tend to go up and down together. There will be exceptional movements of individual prices, seasonal and otherwise, but wherever there is any substantial change up or down, most prices will tend the same way. Consequently, if we divided the basket of goods equally into two baskets *at random* each basket would show about the same change of price as the other and as the whole basket. This conclusion comes from our experience of how prices move.

9. It follows that it is not necessary to take into account all goods used to get a true measure of the price level. Any representative sample of the goods would give practically the same result. Hence follows a very important principle. It is much more important to have goods which can be clearly described as to quantity and grade than to cover the whole range of goods consumed. An index covering 40 items about which there is no uncertainty as to grade or quantity is a better and a truer index than one with 20 additional items, about which there is some uncertainty as to grade or quantity. For this reason, certain foods of moderate importance were omitted from the Australian basket, such as cabbages, apples, oranges, and all other fresh vegetables and fruit, and fresh fish of all kinds. None of these things are sold uniformly throughout Australia at so much per pound, and there are considerable variations in grade which cannot be exactly described. A further difficulty is that both consumption and price vary with the season, and during part of the year some of these goods are unobtainable. That difficulty could be got over, though it would make the work more complicated and expensive, but the impossibility of getting uniform prices for a uniform grade is a definite bar to including such goods.

10. It is stated in the last paragraph that a representative sample of the goods consumed is sufficient for a good price-index. But the sample must be representative of all the goods consumed ; it must be a fair sample. It may not be a fair sample when only food and housing is included, while clothing and household gear are left out entirely. It follows that it cannot be assumed without inquiry that the food-and-housing index will measure accurately all retail prices. The true index for all prices may be higher or lower than the index for food and housing.

11. We find in fact considerable differences in the three groups of food—meat, dairy produce and groceries. Though on the whole they move together, the variations may be considerable. In the last ten years the index for meat has varied as much as 12 per cent. from the index for all food. (This of course, is not a *random* division of the " basket ", such as was spoken of in paragraph 8.) It might be expected that clothing prices would be even more likely to show variation from food prices.

12. The variations in the groups of foods are chiefly the result of good and bad seasons, in Australia and elsewhere. These variations then will tend to cancel out from time to time and the error will not be cumulative. For clothing and household gear, which are manufactured goods, the case is different. There is no doubt that manufactured goods tend to become cheaper relatively to food. That this has happened over the last 100 years is a matter of common knowledge, and there can be little doubt that this tendency will continue and may become stronger as increasing population

puts greater pressure on the natural resources of the world. But it is a long run effect and may be directly contradicted by the experience of a few years. Food prices are essentially more variable than prices of manufactured goods, because both demand and supply for the basic foods are much more rigid than for manufactured goods, so that over-production and under-production are both more likely with foodstuffs.

13. We may conclude from general reasoning that the prices of clothing and household gear will in the long run tend to fall more or rise less than the prices of food, but that over a few years the opposite effect is quite likely.

14. The matter may be tested by Australian experience. Since 1921, an attempt has been made to make an index of all retail prices, including clothing and household gear, and this index has been carried back to 1914. It has not the accuracy of the food-and-rent index, because it was impossible to specify definite grades and qualities of clothing, etc., and without definite specification of grade and quality, no index of prices can be satisfactory. With this caution, the figures in the different groups can be compared. The group " Miscellaneous " includes household gear and fuel, but also a number of other items, such as lodge dues, tram fares and newspapers which do not fluctuate much and therefore tend to keep the group more stable than any other group. The table gives the index-numbers of prices in each group with 1914 as base for the six capital cities taken together for all the years for which data are available, and for three quarters of 1931. The last column gives the food-and-rent index (all houses) as used by the Arbitration Court, but carried only to three figures. This index may be compared with that in the preceding column for " all-items ". The difference between the two is somewhat greater than if rents had been confined to four and five roomed houses in the last column. These houses give a somewhat better and more trustworthy index than all houses (*see* Section IV. Table I.), but as the " all houses " index is the one in most practical use, it seems desirable to make the comparison with it.

Index-Numbers of Prices, November, 1914=100.

(Six Capital Cities.)

—	Food.	Rent (4 and 5 rooms).	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	All items.	Food and rent (all houses.)
Nov. 1920 ..	189	131	181	159	170	162
Nov. 1921 ..	148	135	165	135	147	139
Nov. 1922 ..	147	143	140	133	142	142
1923 ..	157	146	139	133	146	149
1924 ..	151	152	133	134	144	148
1925 ..	156	155	131	132	145	151
1926 ..	160	158	131	133	147	157
1927 ..	156	159	129	135	146	155
1928 ..	154	164	132	135	147	154
1929 ..	163	165	132	135	150	160
1930 ..	147	161	126	133	142	148
1931—						
1st. Qtr.	134	147	116	131	132	136
2nd „	131	142	114	130	128	132
3rd. „	125	136	112	129	125	127

SECTION I.

15. When the story begins in November, 1920, prices were at the peak. Food and clothing were almost equally high, but rent lagged behind miscellaneous expenditure. Consequently the food-and-rent index (with 1914 as base) was nearly 5 per cent. below the "all-items" index. It remained above by about the same amount in 1921 but fell in 1922, until at the end of the year both index-numbers were the same. The greater rise of the "all-items" index in this period was a reasonable consequence of conditions during and directly after the war when imports were severely restricted, so that clothing and household gear were relatively higher than other prices.

16. From 1922, the opposite movement began and the food-and-rent index showed more rise since 1914 than the "all-items" index. In 1926, food-and-rent was nearly 7 per cent. above "all-items" and this relative position was maintained substantially until the latter half of 1930.

17. From the middle of 1930, the fall in food-and-rent was faster than the fall in "all-items", so that the divergence between the two gradually narrowed. In the third quarter of 1931, food-and-rent was less than 2 per cent. above "all-items".

18. The conclusion is that the index-number for food and housing in general is rather higher than the index-number for all retail prices, and so slightly exaggerates the "cost of living". The exception is for the abnormal post-war years, 1920 and 1921, and in these the "all-items" index was 5 per cent. above the food-and-rent index. There was probably a similar but smaller difference in the later war years.

19. The prices for clothing and "miscellaneous" from 1914 to 1919 were not collected at the time but retrospectively in 1920 and 1921. To avoid any error on this account, a comparison may be made which does not involve pre-war prices.

It will be noticed that the two index-numbers were exactly the same in November, 1922, so that the same conclusions must be drawn for the following years, whether we take 1914 or 1922 as base. The statements of paragraphs 16 and 17 are equally true when 1922 is substituted for 1914 as base. The food-and-rent index has since 1922 always been above the "all-items" index, but the difference is getting smaller and is now less than 2 per cent.

20. Although the prices for clothing and miscellaneous expenditure are much less satisfactory than for food and rent, and could not safely be used for quarterly variations for single towns, yet the results taken for the six capitals as a whole for the whole year should give a fairly trustworthy picture of the general trend because the averaging over a large population for the whole year will largely eliminate chance irregularities. I think the conclusion may fairly be drawn that for the six capitals the food-and-rent index slightly exaggerates the "cost of living", but not to a serious extent, and that it may be taken as a reasonably satisfactory index of retail prices generally.

SECTION II.

The Basic Wage and Retail Prices.

21. In 1907, the Federal Basic Wage was fixed at 7s. a day in Melbourne by the implication of the "Harvester" judgement of the Federal Arbitration Court. Mr. Justice Higgins, in deciding that 7s. a day in Melbourne was "fair and reasonable remuneration", made some inquiries into household expenditure. But the award was in effect a practical judgement based on the rates actually ruling in Melbourne.

22. Prices at the time were rising very slowly, and in fact imperceptibly to general observation, and it was not for some years that the question of adjusting wages to the cost of living became acute. Evidence as to cost of living was submitted by Unions, but it was not until 1912 that an officer of the Commonwealth Bureau of Statistics gave formal evidence. The Bureau had begun its investigation of retail prices in 1911 and carried them back to 1901. The first Labour Report with prices and a price-index back to 1901 was published in December, 1912; it contained also an elaborate paper by Sir George Knibbs on the theory of Price-Indexes. In the tramways case, earlier in the year, the Court was "interested" in the statistical evidence but did not accept it as conclusive. Mr. Justice Higgins said "I shall watch with attention any further development of Mr. Knibbs's inquiries."

23. In 1913, a further step was made. In the Gas Employees' case, the President of the Court, Mr. Justice Higgins, said, in reference to official evidence about the retail price-index:—"Since that time (1907) I have found many indications that the minimum of 7s. had become too low owing to the increased cost of living, and I have allowed the fact to influence my awards; but I have never had presented to me, before this case, evidence sufficiently specific to show me what the advance in the basic wage should be". In the Engine-drivers' case, and the Building Labourers' case, later in the same year, the procedure was further developed and since that time the Retail Price-Index has been accepted as the basis of all variations of award. It has been modified to meet special cases, e.g., country wages, and there have been two formal deviations from it—in the addition of the "Powers, 3s." in 1921, and in the 10 per cent. all round reduction in February 1931, and subsequent months.

24. It is to be noted that what the Bureau of Statistics offers to the Court is simply a general index of the retail prices of food and of rents, separately and combined, for the principal towns of Australia. It was not designed with special reference to wage-regulation, nor has it been altered at any time with that in view. It has been for the Court to say what use it will make of that index. The responsibility of the Bureau is to make the index as accurate as possible for what it is designed to do, i.e., measure the rise and fall in the cost of food and housing. The fact that the index is used by the Court for the very important practical business of fixing wages does not concern the Bureau, except to re-double the need for care and accuracy in compiling the index.

25. It may be noted that the popular term "cost of living index" is not recognized by the Bureau of Statistics. The term is of doubtful meaning, and might be taken to imply that account should be taken of changing standards to meet altered conditions—a rising standard after the war and a falling standard in the present depression. Measurement of the cost of living would require also that account should be taken of the possibility of substituting one food for another, mutton for beef when beef is high, and beef

for mutton when mutton is high, and other natural devices of the practical housewife. Nothing of this kind is attempted. What is presented is simply an index of retail prices of the same grades and qualities of certain goods in a constant proportion (*see* Section I., paragraphs 2–6). The same is true of the price-indexes of other countries, which are often described (sometimes officially) as " Cost of Living Indexes ". In most countries, the term " Cost of Living " is used to distinguish a price-index, generally very rough, for all household expenditure from one for food only, which is of much higher accuracy.

26. The Commonwealth Statistician and his officers have from time to time expressed opinions in evidence to the Court or in official publications on matters which are of necessity controversial. For example, the opinion has been expressed from time to time :—

(1) That the index for food and housing makes in general a fairly satisfactory measure of retail prices generally.

(2) That the index for food and housing, if not always perfectly satisfactory for retail prices generally, is still the best measure of them that can, in practice, be made.

(3) That the error in using food and housing as a general index of prices will be now one way, now the other, so that it will not accumulate to any serious amount in any moderate period of years.

27. These opinions have been repeatedly expressed by Sir George Knibbs and Mr. Wickens in the past as a result of their thought and experience. I have briefly reviewed the matter from a perfectly independent point of view in Section I. of this Report, and have given reasons for coming to substantially the same conclusions. But these are of necessity only opinions on matters open to argument, and it rests with the Court to give what weight it thinks fit to them.

SECTION III.

The Accuracy of the Retail Price-Index.

28. A large volume of criticism has been directed against the Retail Price-Index, against its accuracy and against the use made of it in the determinations of wages. This criticism has in the past come from both sides in industrial disputes ; but recently, on account of the severe reduction in wages, it has come almost entirely, and naturally with increased force, on behalf of the wage-earner.

29. It is very desirable to maintain confidence on both sides in the methods of wage-determination. The Australian system, though of course far from perfect, can claim great merits. It has shown itself a more effective instrument for adjusting wages up or down in rough accordance with economic conditions than that of any other country where employers and employed are highly organized. It is, therefore, very desirable to examine carefully all such criticism, to supply explanations in case of misunderstanding of the technical procedure of price measurement, and to take action to correct any defects that may appear as a result of the examination. It will appear that some of the criticism refers not so much to the price-index as to the use made of it by Arbitration Courts. These matters must of course be argued out before the Court itself.

30. Much current criticism of the price-index and the use made of it is put together and set out forcibly in a Report by a sub-committee of the Melbourne Trades Hall Council, consisting of Messrs. P. J. Clarey and H. C. Gibson. It will be convenient to take first the conclusions of this sub-committee and examine them.

31.—(1.) *Predominant Prices*—

> " *That the use of the predominant price basis in the calculation of information as respects food and groceries results in false conclusions ; the figures not only recording changes of price, but also changes in the community's standard of living.*"

32. There is no doubt that the rigid use of the " predominant price " might lead to measurement of change of standard rather than change of price. But, in fact, there is no evidence of any change of grade in the goods for which prices are quoted. When the collection of prices was begun, dealers were very properly asked to quote the " predominant price," i.e., the price of the grade or quality of tea, cheese, &c., which was most in demand; and the words " predominant price " were put at the head of official tables and have remained there until recently. But it was not intended that the grade or quality should be changed because of a change in the demand. Such a procedure would be contrary to the first principles of making a price-index as laid down by Sir George Knibbs who, as Commonwealth Statistician, devised and carried out for many years the compilation of the retail price-index. In his comprehensive memoir on the subject (*Labour Report* 1918, Appendix) he emphasized—

> " The necessity of seeing that the grade or standard of commodities is kept constant, if they are to be used to measure accurately the purchasing-power of money " (page 191).

and again—

> " Price variations due to change of grade in commodities nullify comparisons, inasmuch as they introduce the effect of change of standard " (page 228).

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This principle has, in practice, been carried out, but as in general there was no reason to expect that the predominant grade would be changed and no evidence of change in any returns, the word "predominant" was allowed to stand without the qualification that was strictly necessary.

33. In the present year, a new situation has arisen. With the severe reduction in real wages, due to the Arbitration Court award of January and to taxation, there came a real danger of a change of grade. The price-returns were closely scrutinized for any change of grade—which is easily detected on the tabulated returns—, and a letter was sent to all the dealers making returns warning them against any change of grade in making a return of prices. The State Statisticians who actually collect the prices, co-operated in the watch for possible errors. In official publications dealing with the food-and-rent index, all reference to "predominant" has been cut out so as to avoid any danger of misunderstanding.

34. Scrutiny of past returns shows clearly that no appreciable change of grade has been made by retailers. Occasionally a single return from a country storekeeper shows a possible variation of grade and is sent back for explanation or amendment. Comparison of retail and wholesale prices has supplied a further check. It can be concluded with confidence that no appreciable change of grade has been made by retailers making returns of food and that no such variation will be made in the future.

35. It may be noted that it is only in a few commodities—butter and tea are the most important—that there is danger of an appreciable change of grade. The dominating commodities, bread, sugar, milk and meat are not affected. It is sometimes suggested that the food index will be made lower than it should be because of a greater demand for the cheaper joints. But that is to misunderstand the procedure. All joints are given a constant weight whatever the demand; and as in fact a beast has only the same number of joints whatever the demand for them, the price of the cheaper joints must rise if they are much sought after, and the price of the dearer joints must fall to correspond.

36. It is affirmed with confidence in the preceding paragraphs that no appreciable change of grade has taken place or can take place in future in any of the items of food, and groceries, for which prices are quoted. The same statement cannot be made for clothing and miscellaneous expenditure. For most of the items of these groups, grades and qualities are not definite enough to identify from quarter to quarter over a term of years. There has been no alternative to asking retailers to quote the "predominant price," whenever there is uncertainty as to the grade for which they last quoted. There is, therefore, a possibility of an appreciable change of grade in the course of years with changing fashions, and changing standards, particularly in women's clothing. It is probable that any change that has taken place up to the end of 1930 has been on the whole upward, because up to that time wages had risen more than prices, i.e., "real" wages had risen. From 1921 to 1930, the rate of "real" wages was from 6 per cent. to 12 per cent. higher than in 1911, though there was some fall in the war years. Moreover, 1911 was a peak year for "real" wages, and if the comparison be made with the average of the years 1910 to 1914, the rise in "real" wages would have been 3 per cent. higher than in the comparison with 1911 alone. There is then a possibility that the "all-items" index has been brought out

a little higher than it should be as a true measure of all retail prices. The reverse effect is probably beginning to operate in the present year, because though the rates of "real" wages are still rising, the average "real" wage received, on account of unemployment, has fallen seriously.

37. It is for this reason, because it is impossible to identify grades and qualities in clothing and "miscellaneous", that the "all-items" index is much inferior to the food-and-rent index in accuracy, and cannot be recommended for practical use in the determination of wages or other payments. It serves a useful purpose in showing a trend, but cannot claim any high degree of accuracy.

38.—(2.) *Rent and home purchasers—*

> *"That the basis of recording variations in prices of rent is restrictive and inconclusive and does not cover the whole community's shelter charges; the investigations not covering the fixed charges of home purchasers, either by instalments or mortgages and their annual charges of taxation and maintenance."*

39. It is quite true that the proportion of houses purchased on instalment or on mortgage is so large that they should be taken into account in measuring rent. The difficulty, however, of getting fair and reliable data is considerable, and if the data are dubious, the general principle is to omit such items from a price-index unless there is reason to think that their omission appreciably affects the index.

40. The question then is whether the omission of the charges on purchased houses seriously affects the rent-index. There does not seem to be any reason to think so. The number of houses that are now being purchased, or have been purchased in recent years is still considerably less than the number of rented houses. On the whole, in the long run, it is to be expected that the charges on purchased houses will be much the same as rents. A man will not purchase a house in preference to renting one, unless he can reasonably expect to get his house about as cheaply as a rented house of the same quality. The two charges in the long run will be much the same, but the purchaser avoids the fluctuations of rents. When trade is booming and rents are high, he will gain by having a time-purchased house with fixed charges. In the depression when rents are low, he will lose by his venture in comparison with the man with a rented house. It seems reasonable that he should take the rough with the smooth. It is his own choice.

41. In any case, it is not the actual amount of the charge on purchased houses that is in question, but only its fluctuations. The index is concerned only with changes of price and for this purpose it does not matter whether the goods in question are high grade or low grade, costly or cheap, so long as the price varies in the same way as other grades of the same goods. As pointed out above, the purchaser's charges are more stable than rents; they do not fall so much as rents, though the rate of interest is liable to fall as it has done at present; nor do they rise so much as rents in prosperous times, though rates of interest will tend to rise in those conditions. The effect of including the charges on purchased houses in rent would have only a very small effect on the whole food-and-rent index and therefore on wage rates based on the index. If these charges varied from 20 per cent. above to 20 per cent. below average rentals—and that is an extreme supposition—then the inclusion of purchased houses would raise or lower the food-and-rent index by 3 per cent. That is to say, wages would be about 4d. per day lower in good times and 4d. per day higher in bad times.

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42. Such greater stability in wages *may* be desirable. It would be a compromise between the interests of the purchaser and of the ordinary tenant. The possibility of getting fair and trustworthy data is being investigated, and if they can be got, a price-index will be computed which takes the charges on purchased houses into account. Whether such an amended index would be taken into account in fixing wages, would be of course a matter in the discretion of the Court.

43.—(3.)

> "*That the adoption by the Court of the Statistician's assumption, that the variation of the 60 per cent. of expenditure recorded and investigated (rent, food and groceries) is an indication of the variation in prices of the 40 per cent. unrecorded, is unsound as between capital cities and country towns and results in a reduction of the standard of living and loss of real wages by provincial and rural workers.*"

44. The logic of the last sentence is at fault. If the assumption is "unsound as between capital cities and country towns," the result might equally be again in "real" wages by city workers. If the assumption is true on the whole, then the result would be some loss by country workers and some gain by city workers, with the total gain and loss balancing.

45. However, the assumption referred to is only in very general terms, and as our best information refers to the cities, let us suppose that it is true only for the cities, and consider how country wages are affected.

46. The argument is briefly as follows :—Food is about the same price in country towns as in the capitals. Rent is much lower. Therefore, food and rent together are lower. On the assumption referred to, clothing and miscellaneous should also be lower. But it is a matter of common knowledge, and borne out by the official record of prices that clothing is on the average at least as high in country towns as in the capitals. Therefore, the food-and-rent index does not fairly measure all retail prices in the country towns as compared with the capitals.

47. This is perfectly sound. But the Commonwealth Statistician has never "assumed" that the food-and-rent index measured satisfactorily differences in all retail prices between different places under different conditions. The opinion expressed (*see* Section I., paragraph 20) has been that the food-and-rent index measured on the whole with moderate accuracy the variation of all retail prices for the same place so long as social habits did not greatly change. Now there is no reason to doubt that the food-and-rent index for Ballarat (say) does very fairly measure the changes in all retail prices in Ballarat, though it does not give a fair comparison for all retail prices between Ballarat and Melbourne. The use of the food-and-rent index to vary wages in Ballarat is therefore fair and reasonable. The only question is on what base the wage should be computed as compared with Melbourne.

48. The question of a base is a matter for argument before the Court and a decision by it. In fact, the Court has not made the assumption attributed to it and determined wages in country towns and districts simply on the food-and-rent index. For example, in the award in the Engineers' case, 26th March, 1930, in practically all the towns and country districts the wage based on the index-number is increased by a "loading", rising as high as 9s. a week for country districts in South Australia. These "loadings" were in accordance with past awards, and were merely continued by Mr.

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Justice Beeby. Mr Deputy President Webb, in the Australian Workers' Union (Mining) case of 1924, made a clear statement of the principle involved and concluded : " The Court, therefore, has adopted the custom of making an allowance on the Country figure ". Mr. Justice Powers in the same year (Commonwealth Railways' case) enforces the same principle. It is true that the Court has on occasion expressed itself not wholly satisfied with the method by which these discriminations were fixed, and suggested that the whole question should be reviewed by the Full Court. But there is no hint of any crude reversion to the simple index-number. In the Dried Fruits' case of 1929–30, the Chief Judge refused the employers' claim for an award for Mildura and Renmark based on the " four towns ", i.e., excluding Melbourne, and made a higher award on the evidence ; but he added :—

> " I think the basic wage for the Mildura district ought to be adjusted upon the Victorian " four towns " index-numbers, which sufficiently reflect variations in the prices of provisions, clothing and sundries."

49. It is clear from these instances that the alleged " assumption " of the Commonwealth Statistician is not in fact adopted by the Court and consequently cannot result in " loss of real wages by provincial and rural workers ".

50.—(4.)

> " *That the regimen used in the compilation of the index-numbers is inapplicable to the normal needs of the average Australian family, omitting as it does such essentials as vegetables (other than potatoes and onions), fruit and fish.*"

51. This objection seems to come from some misunderstanding of an index-number and is perhaps sufficiently answered in Section I., paragraph 9. If fish, fruit and vegetables were included, there would be some small difference, but it is impossible to say whether the index-number would be higher or lower than it is at present. The difference in any case would be small on the average, but the index-number would be more variable on account of seasonal fluctuations of price.

52.—(5.)

> " *That the mass-units used in the compilation of the said index-numbers are not an approximation of the quantities consumed in the average Australian family ; a preponderating weight being given to such items as sugar, potatoes, flour and meat, while staple items, such as eggs and butter, are not given their due weight in proportion to their average consumption.*"

53. It is true that the mass units used in the compilation of the index-number are not all exactly proportional to present Australian consumption. It is desirable that the mass-units should be revised from time to time, and such a revision is now due. Investigation has in fact been going on for the last twelve months into some of the more difficult items of consumption, particularly meat and milk, and sufficient data are now available for revising the mass-units. This revision will be undertaken shortly.

54. Although the mass-units require revision, it is not to be supposed that revision will now make any appreciable change in the price-index. It is a well-known fact that very large variations in the mass-units or weights make very small variations in the index, unless the prices of the different items have varied in a very irregular way—some up and some down, or some

stationary and some greatly changed. As nearly all individual prices have increased greatly since 1911, the corrections to be made on account of revised mass-units will be very small. (A full statement will be made on this matter, when the revision is complete.) It is desirable, however, to make the revision from time to time to prevent small errors from accumulating to substantial ones.

55. The criticism is made that sugar, potatoes, flour and meat are over-weighted in comparison with eggs and butter, and it appears to be thought that this has the effect of lowering the index and so lowering wages. Even if there were serious over-weighting of the articles specified, it would have precisely the opposite effect and would raise the price-index higher than it should be, because the prices of all the " over-weighted " items have increased since 1911 more than either of the " under-weighted " items. But there will in fact be no substantial change. Because the corrections to be made in the mass-units are not very great, and the movement of nearly all individual prices has been roughly similar, it is certain that the correction to be made in the index-number will be very small.*

56.—(6.)

> " *These inconsistencies result in a regimen below a normal standard of comfort and also result in drops of wages in excess of the drop in consumers' costs, and thus cause considerable variation between real and nominal wages.*"

57. This criticism amounts to a summary of the separate objections, and is sufficiently answered under the separate headings. No inconsistencies have been shown. The " regimen " has nothing to do with any standard of comfort ; it is simply a choice of goods selected as most suitable for measuring as accurately as possible the movement in retail food prices. There is no evidence at all to show that the price-index so made has worked prejudicially to the wage-earner. It is not, of course, a perfect measure of the variation of consumers' cost for all individual consumers or for all classes of consumers. But where it is against a consumer in one movement of prices, it favours him to an equal extent when prices move the opposite way. We are all naturally sensitive to present ills and forgetful of past benefits.

58. The price-index, then, is not biased, but the question of how accurately it measures changes in the total costs of the wage-earner cannot be finally settled. In Section I. reasons are given for believing it reasonably accurate. If that is so, the index furnishes an effective means of keeping " real " wages at a constant value. Whether " real " wages ought not in the long run to increase with scientific and technical progress is not a question for the statistician. Here it remains only to examine some other current objections to the price-index, not included in the Melbourne Trades Hall Report.

59. *The Sales Tax.*—Anxiety has been expressed in many quarters, lest the prices used for the price-index should not include the sales tax. The assurance can be freely given that wherever the consumer is asked to pay the sales tax, it is included in the price used for the price-index. In a few cases, the trade has been carrying the sales tax—at least while it was only 2½ per cent.—and then of course the sales tax is not included in the quoted price nor in the price charged to the public. The price returned to the Bureau is

* Since this was written, a test has been made with weights based on present consumption. The result indicates that the error on account of using the old weights has not been more than three points in 1,500, which would affect wages by about a farthing a day.

supposed to be the price charged to the public, and would naturally include the sales tax, wherever it is passed on to the public. Inquiries made by the State Statisticians have shown that this has been so, in fact.

60. The amount at issue is in any case very small. The only items affected are :—Tea, coffee, rice, sago, jam, oatmeal, starch, blue, soap and candles. The tax on all of these raises the price-index only seven points in about 1,500, and if the sales tax was omitted from all prices quoted, the effect would be to lower wages about ½d. per day.

61. There is however, a further and much more difficult question connected with the effect of such measures as a sales tax. (The general reader is recommended to pass on to paragraph 62.) If a tax is imposed on many commodities but not on the principal items which enter into the food-and-rent index, then it may be argued that the food-and-rent index will no longer measure accurately the rise or fall in retail prices generally. This argument is perfectly sound but its application requires caution. It is never strictly true that the food-and-rent index measures exactly the changes in all retail prices. It is only approximately true on the whole. Every change of price in individual items, a rise in bread or boots, a fall in meat or flannel, to some extent affects the relation between the two index-numbers. On the whole we find these effects cancel out and the two index-numbers remain fairly harmonious. Unequal movements of prices happen daily in the ordinary course of trade. We have also unequal movements due to action of governments. Every measure of taxation, every duty of customs or excise, causes some unequal movement of prices. The sales tax is only one of many such influences. The practical question then is whether the effect of the sales tax is so great that it stands out from the many other factors causing unequal price movement, so that it will appreciably affect the rough harmony which prevails on the average between food-and-rent and all retail prices.

62. The first question to settle is the magnitude of the sales tax effect. The rate of the tax is 6 per cent. and it is levied on (at the most) one-third of all consumption. If spread equally therefore it would raise prices not more than 2 per cent., and the food-and-rent index would be not more than 2 per cent. higher or about 28 points in the present average food-and-rent index of 1,400. But the actual effect of the sales tax is to raise food-and-rent about 7 points (paragraph 60). The effect of the incidence of the tax is therefore to put food-and-rent not more than 21 points out of harmony with all retail prices.

63. Consider on the other hand sugar, which by action of government has been kept from falling in price in harmony with all other commodities. If it had fallen 25 per cent. in price or about 1d. per lb.—wheat has fallen over 50 per cent.—food-and-rent would have fallen 23 points. If sugar fell to the New Zealand price, 3d. per lb., food-and-rent would be down 32 points, while an index for all retail prices would be down only about 19 points. Government action in this case may be said to have put food-and-rent out of harmony with all retail prices by about 13 points in one direction, against 21 points in the other direction by the sales tax. When to the effect of sugar protection is added the similar effect of keeping up butter prices by means of the tariff, the result is just about to balance the effect of the sales tax in the other direction of putting up other prices more than food-and-rent.

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64. There are numerous other disturbances of this kind but those mentioned are the most important. The exact balancing of them would be a long and difficult job, but enough has been said to show that the net effect is unlikely to be more than a few points in the index-number, and might be either way. That is to say that the effect of legislation, taxation and other government action probably has not put the food-and-rent index out of harmony with all retail prices by more than a few points ; or made the adjustment of wages to prices in error by more than 1d. per day—where the error may be either up or down.

65. *Mid-monthly Prices.*—The charge has been made that retailers systematically lowered prices at the middle of the month when their returns were sent in, with the object of depressing wages. The basis of the charge was the daily report of retail prices appearing in the Melbourne *Herald.* No doubt isolated low prices in the middle of a month gave rise to the suspicion but careful examination shows no justification whatever for it. The *Herald* prices have been tabulated systematically day by day for the last sixteen months, and careful scrutiny shows no evidence whatever that prices at the middle of the month tended to be lower than those at other times. In fact, prices were found to be just as often higher as lower.

66. A further suspicion has been privately voiced, though not officially countenanced by any responsible Labour organization, that retailers deliberately and systematically under-state prices. A little common sense should disperse this suspicion, even if all credit for common honesty be refused to Australian retailers. The idea that ten reputable firms in each branch of trade in each city should systematically conspire to make false returns on a matter easily capable of verification, and expose themselves not only to very heavy legal penalties but to a scandal which would inevitably have a most damaging effect on business—surely such an idea only needs to be stated plainly to be dismissed as absurd.

67. *The Accuracy of the Price-data.*—For various reasons, some of which have been examined in previous paragraphs, a great deal of distrust of the accuracy of the recorded prices has been expressed. Occasional errors due to carelessness are found, as must be expected in the hundreds of thousands of prices which are dealt with yearly ; but no evidence has been received of any appreciable inaccuracy one way or the other. The question is whether it ought to be possible for critics to supply evidence for charges of inaccuracy.

68. The average mid-monthly prices for every town are available monthly about four weeks after the event. They are printed in the Quarterly Summary of Statistics and are furnished monthly to newspapers which apply for them. They could be supplied, if desired, to the responsible trade union and employers' organizations in each State. This information allows the public to make some check on their accuracy, but only a very rough one. The average prices will not in general be the same as those of any individual retailer. Even if some organization interested kept a record of the prices of ten shops, the average could not be expected to be exactly the same as the official figures, unless the ten shops were the same as those supplying official returns. Both samples of ten shops would be satisfactory for measuring *changes* in price, which is all the price-index is concerned with, and would give the same percentage change. But the actual prices would be higher or lower according to the class of trade. Every effort has been made to keep the official prices continuous from the time that prices were first

collected ; when a retailer goes out of business, his place is filled by another doing the same class of trade. Any other sample of retailers, however fairly chosen, would give slightly different averages. They might even be a better and more representative sample than the official ones, but it would still be wrong to use their prices instead of the official ones, because they are a different sample and would make the record of prices discontinuous.

69. How then can a check be made which will satisfy those who are vitally affected by the movement of the price-index. The obvious means is to publish the list of retailers supplying prices and of the individual prices quoted by them monthly. To that, however, there are very grave objections. The information is asked of retailers on the authority of the Census and Statistics Act, which guarantees that individual returns shall be treated as confidential and prescribes a penalty for any one disclosing them. In fact, retailers would be very unwilling to make returns if their names and prices were disclosed. They would be exposed to a good deal of worry, and would actually incur odium and lose business, as being in some way responsible for lower wages when prices were falling. Any cut in price in order to get trade in bad times would be represented as an attack on the workers' standard of living. Data unwillingly supplied always make bad statistics. If the law were altered to provide for publicity, the result would undoubtedly be seriously to impair the value of the price-index.

70. Other methods of check have been suggested, but none is simple, effective and inexpensive. The matter is under consideration and it is hoped that some practical means can be found. There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the information supplied—with the exception of occasional accidents of carelessness—but it is very desirable to be able to show convincing proof to those—whether employers or employed—whose interests are very seriously affected by changes in the price-index, and who cannot therefore always bring a quite unbiased judgement to bear on the subject.

71. *Rent.*—The information about rent is not so good as for food, though better than for clothing and other expenditure. The complaints of inaccuracy have, in general, come from the employers' side. Whenever times are bad and rents obviously falling, the rent-index is found to show little change. Rents are naturally much slower to move than food prices, and this effect is heightened by the choice of houses for the rent-index. The houses taken are normal fairly modern houses in fair situations ; old-fashioned, inconvenient houses, houses out of repair and poorly situated are excluded. These are the houses for which rents fall first, and in fact such houses become almost unlettable in times of depression. But for the more modern convenient house, rent is very slow to move. In particular, rents of four and five-roomed houses may even go up, because people move into smaller houses and the demand on them increases. It has happened repeatedly that the rent-index remains stationary or falls very slowly on the house-agents' returns, though the same house-agents' impressions, from the state of trade and the number of empty houses on their hands, are that rents are falling heavily.

72. The rent-index is, however, more liable to accidental variations than the food-index. The trouble comes from the enormous variety of grade of house and the difficulty of specifying a standard. There is no bias in the variations, which may be up or down. But it is, of course, desirable to eliminate them, and a procedure for getting more accurate data is under consideration.

SECTION IV.

Tables.

The following tables provide material for study of the problem of the adjustment of wages to prices. The index-numbers are mostly given to base 100 instead of 1,000 but the "Harvester" equivalents are worked out to the full accuracy of the latter base. It must be understood that it is not in general possible to get an index-number of prices strictly correct to four figures. Most countries are content with three, and for a general survey the movement can more easily be picked up by using three figures.

TABLE I.

Index-Numbers—Rent—Six Capitals.

Period.	All Houses.	Four and five rooms.	Period.	All Houses.	Four and five rooms.
1911	100	100	1929	176	175
1920	133	134	1930	169	171
1921	140	141			
1922	148	149	1930—1st Quarter ..	175	178
1923	155	155	2nd ,, ..	172	174
			3rd ,, ..	166	169
1924	161	162	4th ,, ..	160	163
1925	163	165			
1926	173	168	1931—1st ,, ..	156	156
1927	173	168	2nd ,, ..	151	150
1928	176	174	3rd ,, ..	146	145

The above table shows how rent has varied since 1911 according as "all houses" or "four and five-roomed houses" are taken. The weighted average for the Six Capitals in 1911 was 13s. 5d. for four and five-roomed houses, and 15s. 7d. for all houses. Each of these is taken as 100 in 1911, so that the percentage changes can be readily compared. It will be seen that the variations of rent are very similar whichever of the two groups of houses is considered. The movement may be a little quicker in one than the other, whether up or down, so that sometimes one, sometimes the other, shows a little more total variation since 1911. For the three quarters of 1931, the rise since 1911 has been practically the same in both index-numbers.

Table II. gives—

(*a*) The food-and-rent index as used by the Arbitration Court, and alongside the "all-items" index which includes also clothing and miscellaneous expenditure. Both index-numbers are to base November, 1914, the earliest date for which the "all-items" index is available.

(*b*) The "Harvester" equivalent on the food-and-rent index and, alongside, what the "Harvester" equivalent would have been, if the "all-items" index had been used from 1914 on, instead of the food-and-rent index. These figures are the strict "Harvester" equivalents, without the "Powers 3s." or the "10 per cent. cut."

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(*c*) The index-number of rates of wages, with the same base, November, 1914.

The wages taken account of in this index includes all those which are the result of legal determination or collective agreement. There is a considerable volume of wages paid to unorganized labour, particularly in country occupations, which is not fully covered.

(*d*) "Real" wages, i.e., in terms of retail purchasing power, with the same base, November, 1914. In the first column of "real" wages, purchasing power is measured by the food-and-rent index, in the second column by the "all-items" index.

TABLE II.

Retail Prices, Wage Rates and "Real" Wages.

Weighted Averages for the Six Capitals.

Base—November, 1914 = 100.

Period.	Retail Price Index.		Weekly "Harvester" Equivalent based on—		Average Rate of Wage Index.	"Real" Wages* based on—	
	Food and Rent.	"All Items."	Food and Rent.	"All Items."		Food and Rent.	"All Items."
			s. d.	*s. d.*			
1914 (November)..	100	100	54 9	54 9	100	100	100
1921 (November)..	139	147	76 3	80 8	169	121	115
1922 (November)..	142	142	77 6	77 9	167	118	117
1923	149	146	81 8	77 11	167	112	114
1924	148	144	80 9	78 7	170	115	119
1925	151	145	82 9	79 5	172	114	119
1926	157	147	85 9	80 6	177	113	120
1927	155	146	84 10	79 10	180	116	124
1928	154	147	84 6	80 5	182	118	124
1929	160	150	87 6	82 3	182	114	121
1930—1st Quarter	154	147	84 2	80 3	183	119	125
2nd ,,	152	145	83 1	79 5	181	119	125
3rd ,,	146	141	80 1	77 2	179	123	127
4th ,,	139	135	76 0	74 1	175	126	129
1931—1st ,,	136	132	74 3	72 1	168	124	128
2nd ,,	132	128	72 1	70 4	163	124	127
3rd ,,	127	125	69 6	68 4	..	..	..

* Taking no account of unemployment.

From the table it may be noted :—

(1) The food-and-rent index has risen since 1914 more than the "all-items" index.

(2) Consequently the "Harvester" equivalent is now greater than if the "all-items" index had been used by the Arbitration Court since 1914.

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(3) "Real" wages have increased roughly 25 per cent. since 1914, whichever index is used to measure purchasing power. The rise was appreciable and fairly continuous during 1930. In 1931, there is a small decline.

These figures, however, exaggerate a little the upward movement of "real" wages, because in 1914 "real" wages were below the average just as in 1911 they were above the average. If the comparison be made with the whole pre-war period, 1910 to 1914, the index-numbers of "real" wage rates based on food-and-rent (column before the last) would be in each year about three less. The effect on the last column cannot be stated, because we have no information about changes of price for clothing and "miscellaneous" in the period 1910 to 1914.

(4) The "all-items" index shows a slightly greater rise in "real" wages than the food-and-rent index.

It is at first sight surprising that a greater fall in "real" wages is not shown in 1931, in view of the "10 per cent. cut" in "real" wages by the Federal Arbitration Court in February, 1931. It is probable, however, that only about half of all Australian wages have been subject to these Federal awards or to similar reductions by State awards. Moreover, most wages in New South Wales have not even been adjusted to retail prices so that "real" wages have on the whole risen in that State.

Further, it must be remembered that when wages are regularly adjusted to prices, "real" wages will rise in a period of falling prices (and fall in a period of rising prices) because of the necessary lag of wages behind prices.

When due weight is given to these two considerations, it will be seen that both the fall in wage rates and the fall in "real" wages shown in the table correspond reasonably with what might have been expected.

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